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Executive summaries of voluntary national reviews

Note by the Secretariat*

The Secretariat transmits herewith the executive summaries of voluntary national reviews presented by 22 Member States at the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 67/290 and 70/1.

* The present document was submitted late to meet the requirement for issuing the full set of executive summaries.

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China

[Original: English]

In September 2015, Xi Jinping, President of China, attended the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and joined other leaders in endorsing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, providing guidance to the national development of Member States and international development cooperation in the next 15 years.

As the largest developing country in the world, China has always placed development as the first priority. The thirteenth five-year plan was reviewed and approved by the Fourth Session of the twelfth National People's Congress in March 2016, defining the development concept featuring innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development. In the coming years, China will pursue innovative development and improve the quality and efficiency of development. Coordinated development will be promoted to form a balanced structure of development. China will pursue green development by promoting a green and low-carbon development model and lifestyle, protecting the ecological system. It will make great efforts to deepen opening-up, thus realizing win-win cooperation. Shared development will be facilitated to improve people's well-being. China will seek coordinated development in the economic, political, cultural, social and ecological fields in order to build a moderately prosperous society in all respects as planned.

China attaches great importance to implementation of the 2030 Agenda and believes that the principles of peaceful development, win-win cooperation, integration and coordination, inclusiveness and openness, sovereignty and voluntary action, as well as common but differentiated responsibilities, should be followed in building a new type of international relations featuring win-win cooperation, establishing all-round partnerships and achieving economic, social and environmental development in a balanced manner. Countries should be encouraged to formulate their domestic development strategies and take measures to implement the 2030 Agenda in accordance with national conditions and respective characteristics, while the means of implementation should be allowed to be differentiated, owing to diversified national conditions and respective capabilities.

China suggests that nine key areas should be prioritized in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. These areas are as follows:

- Eradicating poverty and hunger through targeted measures to alleviate and eliminate poverty and enhancing agricultural production capacities and food security
- Implementing innovation-driven development strategies and generating momentum for sustainable, healthy and stable economic growth
- Advancing industrialization to inject impetus for coordinated development between urban and rural areas and among the three dimensions of sustainable development
- Improving social security and social services to ensure equal access to basic public services
- Safeguarding equity and social justice to improve people's well-being and promoting all-round human development

- Protecting the environment and building protective barriers for eco-security
- Addressing climate change actively and integrating climate change response into national development strategies
- Promoting efficient utilization of resources and sustainable energy
- Improving national governance and ensuring economic and social development in line with the rule of law

Implementing the 2030 Agenda is a systemic project. The international community needs to provide sound support from five dimensions, including the following:

- Strengthening the capacity-building of countries so as to improve institution-building, increase public resources and generate internal growth momentum
- Creating an enabling international environment for development, building a balanced, win-win and inclusive multilateral trading system and improving global economic governance
- Engaging with all stakeholders and working towards a more equitable and balanced global partnership for development
- Promoting a coordination mechanism and incorporating development policy into global macroeconomic policy coordination
- Improving follow-up and review by conducting regular reviews of progress in global implementation, while the review of national implementation would be done according to respective national conditions and the principle of voluntary action

2016 is the first year of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. China has made great efforts in its implementation, linking the 2030 Agenda with domestic mid- and long-term development strategies. A domestic coordination mechanism for its implementation, comprised of 43 government departments, has been established to guarantee implementation of the Agenda. Great efforts have been be made to publicize the Agenda nationwide in order to mobilize domestic resources, raise public awareness and create a favourable social environment for the implementation. China will also strengthen intersectoral policy coordination, review and revise relevant laws and regulations to provide policy and legislative guarantees for implementation. In the next five years, China is determined to lift all 55.75 million rural residents living below the current poverty line out of poverty, and to double its gross domestic product and per capita income of 2010. China has already released a position paper on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which reflects China's views on the principles, priorities, policies and progress made in the implementation of the Agenda. The position paper was circulated to Member States in April 2016 as a document of the General Assembly (A/70/834, annex). In 2016, China will also issue its national plan for implementing the Agenda and share its development experience with other countries.

Under the Chinese presidency of the Group of Twenty this year, China has put development issues at the heart of its agenda, and lists inclusive and interconnected development as one of the four key agenda items. With China's efforts, the Group has placed the issue of development in a prominent position in its global

macropolicy framework for the first time, to optimize development policy coordination. It is the first time that members of the Group of Twenty have jointly drafted a collective action plan on the 2030 Agenda to inject political impetus into progress on the global implementation of the Agenda. It is also the first time that the Group has discussed the issues of supporting industrialization in Africa and the least developed countries to actively respond to the demands of developing countries, especially African countries. China has also convened outreach dialogues with non-Group of Twenty countries and invited the largest numbers of developing countries in the Group's history to participate in all activities this year, to ensure that its actions meet outside expectations.

As a responsible and large developing country, China will continue to actively take part in global development cooperation. It has provided support for more than 120 developing countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In the future, China will deepen South-South cooperation to help other developing countries to implement the 2030 Agenda. China is currently implementing the measures announced by President Xi Jinping during his attendance at United Nations summits marking the seventieth anniversary of the Organization, providing other developing countries with support in financing, technology and capacity-building. China is making preparations for the assistance fund for South-South cooperation, which will be put into operation as soon as possible. The Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development has been established and starts global enrolment in 2016, which will provide developing countries with opportunities for higher education at the master's and doctoral levels as well as short-term training. China has signed agreements with the United Nations concerning the China-United Nations peace and development fund, which will be put into operation in 2016 to finance projects concerning peace and development. China will carry forward the belt and road initiative and encourage the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the New Development Bank and other institutions to play greater roles with a view to making a contribution to global development.

Looking ahead, China will shoulder the responsibility of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, follow a development path featuring mutual benefit, win-win results and common development and work with all countries to build a better future of sustainable development for all mankind.

Colombia

[Original: Spanish]

Sustainable Development Goals as a tool for peacebuilding

The Government of Colombia had understood the importance of preparing for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals one year before their adoption and has therefore become a lead country, not only in the collective process of defining goals that are inclusive, but also in terms of readiness to achieve them. Since then, Colombia has taken the necessary steps and measures to put in place institutional and public policy mechanisms at the national and local level, with information systems and data availability. The country has also taken steps to identify the key stakeholders and other elements needed to achieve the goals of the global Agenda by 2030.

In a first step, the vision of the 2030 Agenda was included in the national development plan: 92 of the 169 targets were already built into the plan and were being monitored by indicators defined in the national performance monitoring and evaluation system.

Later, in February 2015, President Juan Manuel Santos Calderón established the High-level Inter-Agency Commission for preparation for and effective implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the only entity in the country that facilitates the participation of all sectors and stakeholders at all levels. The Commission has five working groups focusing on (a) indicators, (b) territorial issues, (c) resource mobilization, (d) international affairs and (e) communications.

After one year in operation, the Commission was able to establish the parameters for aligning the 2030 Agenda with other development agendas that guide national policy. In addition to the national development plan and its green growth strategy, the 2030 Agenda is in line with the joint draft texts of the General Agreement for the Termination of the Conflict and the Construction of a Stable and Lasting Peace that were the outcome of the talks in Havana with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia — People's Army (FARC-EP); it is also in line with the process for accession to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The green growth strategy, which promotes sustainable production and consumption, climate change mitigation, the protection of ecosystems and the sustainable use of natural marine and terrestrial resources, provides for concrete action related to 86 of the Sustainable Development Goal targets.

With 50 of the 169 Sustainable Development Goal targets closely related to the five points of the General Agreement signed at the talks in Havana, the President observed that, upon its signature, the final peace agreement to end the conflict would be the first of its kind with a focus on sustainable development and that, consequently, the Goals would become a tool for peacebuilding in Colombia.

The Commission has worked out an implementation strategy with three main lines of action centred on: (a) policies and programmes, (b) indicators and (c) costing of the 2030 Agenda. At the end of 2016, this exercise will culminate in the drafting of a public policy document by the National Council on Economic and Social Policy establishing the indicators and respective national goals for 2030, with a clear indication of the guidelines, actions and actors responsible for the Government's implementation of the Agenda.

Convinced that genuine transformative action is needed on the ground, at the local level, Colombia has focused its efforts on incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into its subnational planning framework. During the past six months, the Government has worked hand in hand with municipal and departmental authorities to disseminate and take ownership of the Goals so that they can permanently guide the development process and ensure effective access to goods and services at all levels. As a result, budgetary and regulatory policy measures that are in line with the Goals have been included in the regional development plans of recently elected local authorities

It is worth highlighting the leadership demonstrated by Colombia in the definition of indicators. In addition to its participation in the Inter-Agency and

Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, Colombia is one of the first countries to date to have already conducted a detailed assessment of the status of data needed for reporting on the global indicators: complete information exists and is available for 54 per cent of the indicators, partial information is available for 30 per cent of the indicators, and there is no information available as yet for 16 per cent of the indicators. Government entities, under the leadership of the national statistical office, are working on a final list of national indicators, which will be published at the end of 2016.

The Commission's work has demonstrated that the 2030 Agenda requires the support and mobilization of all development actors, at every level: international, regional, national and subnational. Colombia is committed to adopting a multi-stakeholder approach, which will require clarification of the elements necessary for joint work and the development of a coherent strategy on the basis of those elements. In that regard, the Commission has made progress with a joint responsibility mapping exercise, which has revealed that 135 of the 169 targets relate to tasks executed at the national level, 110 will require joint work with the offices of mayors and governors, 54 will require coordinated action at the international level and 88 will require commitments from the private sector if they are to be implemented.

Methodology for the voluntary national review of Colombia

Colombia is of the view that the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council should become an inclusive and innovative forum for the exchange of good practices and lessons learned that creates added value for all countries. To achieve that aim, a methodology should be established to ensure that voluntary national reviews provide not only an account of the progress made at the national level but also a frame of reference to help all countries identify joint initiatives that promote the global achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the basis of the intergovernmental decisions taken prior to the meeting of the high-level political forum, and taking into account the flexibility of the forum in 2016, Colombia has established a methodology for its voluntary national review that focuses on a small subset of the Sustainable Development Goals and the linkages between them, in order to:

- Make a significant contribution to the monitoring and evaluation of progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a way that is in keeping with the inclusive and indivisible nature of the Goals and associated targets
- Gain a focused and more in-depth perspective that is in line with the thematic reviews and the annual themes of the high-level political forum and the Economic and Social Council
- Avoid putting excessive pressure on national institutions and statistical systems, in particular those of developing countries
- Promote the exchange of experiences and mutual learning among countries, including those facing similar challenges
- Promote the mobilization of resources for implementation and the establishment of the necessary partnerships, support the identification of

solutions and best practices and foster the coordination and effectiveness of the international development system

Colombia considers that a review of a small subset of the Sustainable Development Goals at each high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council would meet the above-mentioned conditions. Such a system requires that:

- The analysis of the Goals should include discussions of the key linkages with other Goals and be based on the annual themes of the forum and the Economic and Social Council
- Goal 17 and the related targets should be the subject of a full review, in addition to the consideration of their linkages with the small subset of Goals to be reviewed each year.

Using that methodology, the 17 Goals could be reviewed over the course of one cycle and policy guidelines could be issued during the session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly in the last year of the cycle. If the process begins at the high-level political forum in 2019, a year in which sessions of the forum are due to be convened under the auspices of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the entire Agenda could be reviewed several times before 2030. In 2030 there should also be a special session for an overall assessment of the 15 years of implementation and the adoption of a post-2030 agenda.

In its first national presentation, Colombia will provide a focused review of the following Sustainable Development Goals and their interlinkages: Goal 1: end poverty in all its forms everywhere; Goal 3: ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages; Goal 8: promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; and Goal 13: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. The review will take into account the 2016 themes of the Economic and Social Council, "Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results", and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, "Ensuring that no one is left behind".

The review will be based on the agreed global indicators and an analysis of the country's progress in terms of policy and the implementation of actions for the full achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Egypt

[Original: English]

In September 2015, a historic United Nations summit witnessed the launch of the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, with supreme ambition and a transformational vision. With the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in July 2015 at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in December of the same year, 2015 constituted the year of negotiations that paved the way for reshaping the new paradigm for sustainable development for the 15 years to come. Egypt has thus far been actively engaged in the preparation and the negotiations for setting this new paradigm shift, and will remain committed to

the effective implementation of these historical agreements through mutually beneficial cooperation, to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.

Egypt has adopted an approach that is characterized by a high level of ambition, firm commitment and dynamic innovation towards tackling this transformative agenda. In alignment with the 2030 Agenda, Egypt launched in March 2015 its strategy for sustainable development, "Egypt Vision 2030". The Egyptian forward-looking strategy is unprecedented in its scope and significance at the national level. It spans the three dimensions of sustainable development, namely, economic, social and environmental, and outlines the broader principles that will guide Egypt in pursuing its developmental goals. The overarching aim of the strategy is for Egypt to possess a competitive, balanced and diversified economy, dependent on innovation and knowledge, on the basis of justice, social integrity and participation, in a balanced and diversified ecological collaboration system, investing the assets of place and human capital to achieve sustainable development and improve Egyptians' quality of life in a State-driven process, with the full participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Nevertheless, this new paradigm shift in international relations, which changes the sources and scale of development knowledge and practices, reveals a number of challenges at the national, regional and global levels that could slow down the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Addressing such challenges requires the collective efforts of all, in the spirit of shared responsibility towards the transformative and universal framework for global development, bearing in mind the uneven capacities and resources of countries. This will be achievable only through the sharing of knowledge and experiences relating to innovation, financing, capacity strengthening, know-how and technology transfer and, above all, international development cooperation on financing for development to ensure that sufficient means of implementation are mobilized to reflect the strong global commitment towards the "leaving no one behind" approach.

Key messages

Preparations at the national level

For Egypt, inclusive and sustainable development is a core constitutional value and an overall objective. Before the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Egypt committed itself towards achieving sustainable development through the Egyptian Constitution. The Constitution covers the three dimensions of sustainable development, as well as many of the 17 Goals in its various articles, presented as national goals, binding all sectors and levels of government, and calling upon different stakeholders to participate in a State-lead developmental process towards achieving them. The new Constitution represents significant improvement compared to the previous one in securing citizens' rights to education, health, protection and development. It contains articles on strengthening governance, equality and social justice. It is a modern Constitution that ensures the constitutional rights of citizens while guaranteeing that no one is left behind.

Integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development

The Government of Egypt has expressed its full commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which extends from its strong commitment

in the past to the Millennium Development Goals. In accordance with the Egyptian constitutional mandate, the Government of Egypt immediately embarked on planning and implementing major national projects that serve the objectives of inclusive and sustainable development. These projects were later mainstreamed into the newly adopted national strategy for sustainable development, Egypt Vision 2030. The strategy was drafted by means of an inclusive and integrative process that ensured the involvement of various governmental bodies, societal sectors, academia and all relevant stakeholders. It was endorsed by the newly elected parliament in February 2016. The strategy serves as an umbrella for all development strategies in Egypt and is strongly guided by the universal Sustainable Development Goals. The strategy will be implemented by all stakeholders, including the Government, private sector, civil society organizations and international development partners in a concerted approach.

Translating ambitions into actions

Investing in human capacity and institutional capabilities is the cornerstone of sustainable and inclusive development, and as such is highly emphasized in Egypt's development strategy. The implementation and success of Egypt Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, and their integrated nature, require addressing human and institutional capacity gaps through the building of capabilities and competencies at all levels. In that regard, the Government works on harnessing the demographic dividend, and significant effort is being focused on investing in Egypt's human capital, especially through education and training, and boosting decent and sustainable job creation. Specific efforts are being directed at the empowerment of youth and women. On the institutional side, creating highly qualified planners and implementers and civil servants in relevant sectors is crucial for Egypt to realize the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Government puts great emphasis on customizable knowledge sharing, the digital economy and disaggregated data for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Government recognizes science, technology and innovation as key drivers of economic growth and sustainable development. Consequently, Egypt highly values the incorporation of technology transfer and diffusion within the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to accelerate that global process. Egypt is establishing the necessary legal and regulatory frameworks, financial instruments and public-private partnerships to support innovation, science and technology.

Way forward

Despite the fact that the Sustainable Development Goals are still at an early stage of implementation owing to their recent launch, the Government of Egypt has made significant steps and has exerted commendable innovative efforts towards integrating, institutionalizing and implementing, as well as following-up on and reviewing them. A number of examples are set out below.

At the national level, in December 2015, a national interministerial committee was established by Prime Ministerial decree to follow up on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure proper alignment and integration of the Goals with Egypt's sustainable development strategies and priorities. The

Ministry of International Cooperation has been assigned the role of coordinator and rapporteur of the committee. Monitoring and evaluation units have been established in line ministries to support the monitoring of relevant programmes and policies. The reactivation of the strategic planning and monitoring and evaluation unit, established within the institutional structure of the Ministry of International Cooperation, took place in 2015. The objective of the unit is to enhance effective development cooperation through all stages of the Official Development Assistance management cycle. In April 2016, a sustainable development unit within the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics was established to lead the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Goals and Egypt Vision 2030. In addition, Egypt has coordinated closely with United Nations agencies providing technical assistance in establishing the necessary mechanisms and sharing relevant tools to support the Goals at the national level.

At the sectoral level, to localize the Sustainable Development Goals, a number of projects, programmes and initiatives working towards achieving the Goals have been launched or are in the process of being initiated. In addition to the three dimensions of sustainable development, the projects cover the whole spectrum of the 10 pillars of Egypt's sustainable development strategy and the 17 Goals. A key priority of these efforts is to ensure that those who are most in need, especially youth, women, individuals with special needs and individuals in underserved areas, are effectively targeted and their standards of living improved; the year 2016 has been decreed as the Year of Youth. An example of the projects is the recently launched social housing programme, which aims to improve the affordability of formal housing for low-income households. It is expected to reach more than 3.6 million beneficiaries in the lowest income groups, across several governorates, and to replace 150,000 housing units in slum areas. Another example is the Takaful and Karama (Solidarity and Dignity) social protection programmes, which are conditional cash transfer programmes for households in which children are enrolled in school and undertake regular medical examinations.

At the regional level, Egypt, along with African countries, is working through the African Union Commission and the United Nations to integrate the implementation of both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals. Egypt hosted the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, held in Cairo in May 2016. Egypt organized a high-level meeting, also held in Cairo in May 2016, for national reviews for the six countries from the African region presenting their voluntary national reviews at the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development. In line with its historical commitment to supporting developing countries, especially in Africa, Egypt is sharing its successful experiences for promoting sustainable development in those countries through the Egyptian Agency of Partnership for Development, providing capacity-building, sharing of expertise and development assistance through various models for trilateral, bilateral and South-South cooperation. Another successful example of regional cooperation is the Cairo Center for Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa, which is at the forefront of national, regional and international efforts to provide African solutions to African problems, focusing on peacekeeping, peacebuilding and crisis management in post-conflict situations.

At the international level, Egypt was actively engaged in the two-year negotiation process that led to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and in the future will remain committed and actively engaged in the setting of the parameters for the

follow-up and review process of the Sustainable Development Goals. That commitment is reflected through Egypt's volunteering to undertake the first national review of the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development, as one of the pioneering countries presenting their reviews at the first high-level political forum since the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The political leadership has shown strong willingness and resolve to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, under the principle of common but differentiated responsibility. There is a strong focus on the importance of facing global challenges on the basis of the disparity in capacities and resources, as well as the national priorities and diversity of our cultures, and the need to avoid a one-size-fits-all approach to development. Furthermore, development is seen as a fundamental human right in all countries, for all people, with a particular focus on African countries and other developing nations.

Key national, regional and global challenges

The path towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is not an easy one; it encompasses a range of local, regional and global challenges that, to be overcome, require the effective coordinating of efforts on all levels. Egypt faces varied challenges in different areas of sustainable development (social, economic and environmental) and on different levels (national, regional and international) that need to be tackled in order to be able to accelerate and strengthen developmental impact. Several examples are given below.

At the national level, an overall challenge that has far-reaching implications is the high birth rate, which needs to be addressed to harness the demographic dividend and to convert the brain-drain phenomenon to a brain-gain one. Water scarcity is another major challenge in the light of the high rates of population growth and production and consumption needs. Issues related to mitigation of and adaptation to climate change also present a critical challenge that must be addressed. In addition, energy needs for Egypt's growing economy and expanding population must be met to assure continued growth and sustainable development. Another noteworthy challenge is the share of informality in Egypt's economy, which is high and growing. Egypt's informal economy has been expanding and its activities booming since the 25 January revolution. Since we can manage what we measure, achieving the Goals would require considerable efforts to formalize the informal sector by developing proper incentive structures. Efforts in that regard are currently under way, and a national strategy has been adopted to develop and formalize the informal sector. Finally, while Egypt has achieved commendable progress with regard to women's empowerment, notably girls' access to education, a drastic reduction in the practice of female genital mutilation among young girls and a historic milestone in female representation in the parliament, there are still barriers impeding women and girls from realizing their potential as powerful agents of social and economic progress.

At the regional level, instability in the region in neighbouring States, especially Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic, has had a negative spillover effect on the Egyptian economy, which is mostly evident in the tourism sector, with subsequent effects on the financial (including revenues and local currency value) and social (including the unemployment rate and poverty) conditions of the country.

On the international level, the global economic slowdown posed an economic challenge that has affected the capacity for resource mobilization, which in turn caused a high budget deficit and a fiscal crunch that hindered the mobility of needed resources to fully implement the development objectives, programmes and projects. In this regard, there is also a pressing need for enhancing an equitable, fair and transparent multilateral trading system to overcome trade barriers that hinder sustainable and inclusive economic growth, as well as an urgent need for the rational use of property rights that does not hinder sustainable development in developing countries. Furthermore, there is a strong need for more coordinated strategic action towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Despite the commendable progress made, Egypt, similar to most middle-income countries, is at an early stage of the learning curve towards effective strategic and coordinated action for achieving the Goals. The journey is still long in terms of implementing the right mix of policy initiatives, particularly environmental-fiscal reform initiatives, which are typically underleveraged. There is also still work to be done with regard to embedding the Sustainable Development Goals within the national budgeting process, in which the Ministry of Finance will need to play a major role in terms of policy formulation and implementation. In addition, coordination at the subnational and local levels is inherently complex and requires the establishment of effective and streamlined coordination mechanisms. For feedback mechanisms, including monitoring, learning and adaption, integrated sets of indicators will need to be developed and harmonized with national policies. Integrated sets of indicators coupled with informal approaches will allow analysis of the inherent trade-offs and interlinkages among the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Follow-up and review: added value

Recent efforts of the Government of Egypt are a reflection of its priorities and commitment to help citizens to achieve a life characterized by dignity, freedom and equal opportunity, ensuring that no one is left behind on the path to sustainable human development, inclusive growth and shared prosperity. The path to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals cannot be charted in advance of the international development cooperation needed to ensure sufficient means of implementation, which is a critical factor in ensuring success in implementing the Goals. In that regard, Egypt highly values the high-level political forum as the platform for reviewing and following up the implementation of the Goals through an interactive process of peer-learning and sharing of experiences and best practices, and mutually beneficial cooperation that is driven by national priorities and takes into account national sovereignty, with the ultimate purpose of supporting the global vision of sustainable development that leaves no one behind.

Estonia

[Original: English]

The Estonian national voluntary review on implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development gives information on the progress and status of the Sustainable Development Goals in Estonia. It describes the main measures and plans for implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by Government and non-governmental organizations. The report also presents an overview of the

Estonian institutional framework for the coordination of sustainable development issues, including the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, incorporation of the Goals in national frameworks and creating ownership. A preliminary gap analysis of government policies and the global Sustainable Development Goals was initiated in the second quarter of 2016 and was used as relevant input for the review.

The review was compiled in cooperation with several ministries and the Estonian Commission on Sustainable Development. The Estonian review generally follows the common reporting guidelines for voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as presented in the annex of the Secretary-General's report on critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level.[1]

Strategic framework

Estonia has considerable experience in advancing sustainable development. The Sustainable Development Act was adopted by Parliament in 1995. In 2005, the Parliament adopted the Estonian sustainable development strategy "Sustainable Estonia 21",[2] which states four main goals for sustainable development in Estonia: (a) viability of the Estonian cultural space; (2) growth of welfare; (3) a coherent society; and (4) ecological balance. The Estonian national sustainable development strategy is implemented by governments through sectoral and thematic strategies and action plans. The national sustainable development strategy is one of the main horizontal strategies that has to be taken into account by designing strategic development plans for governments.

Monitoring mechanism

The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals is monitored through an agreed set of sustainable development indicators. The set of indicators is renewed on a regular basis and covers all the relevant sustainable development-related topics. The current set of indicators was agreed upon in cooperation with the Sustainable Development Commission, the interministerial sustainable development working group, and the Statistical Office and the Government Office. The most recent indicator-based report on Estonian sustainable development was published in March 2015.[3]

Institutional framework

The Estonian coordination mechanism for sustainable development issues involves government institutions and non-governmental organizations from all relevant sustainable development spheres. At the central government level, the implementation and monitoring of sustainable development issues is coordinated by the Government Office strategy unit, which also coordinates the Estonian competitiveness strategy, Estonia 2020, and drafts and monitors the government

[1] Available from https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/9768Guidelines%20from%20SG%20report.pdf.

[2] Available from https://riigikantselei.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/Failid/estonia_sds_2005.pdf.

[3] Statistics Estonia, *Indicators of Sustainable Development* (Tallin, 2015). Available from https://riigikantselei.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/Failid/saastva_arengu_naitajad_1.pdf.

action plan. The mechanism helps to maintain the coherence between main horizontal strategies. Estonia also plans to utilize the functioning national coordination mechanism for sustainable development issues in coordinating the implementation of Agenda 2030.

The Estonian Sustainable Development Commission was formed in 1996. It consists of non-governmental roof-organizations which cover different fields of sustainable development (for example, education, environmental protection, culture, children, health, local government, academy, companies and agriculture). The Commission meets from four to five times per year and holds thematic discussions on different sustainable development topics, discusses drafts of sustainable development-related strategic action plans before they are adopted by the Government and publishes focus reports with policy recommendations.

Coordination and monitoring also involve the interministerial working group on sustainable development, which is comprised of representatives from all the ministries and Statistics Estonia. The sustainable development working group works on an ad hoc basis. For example, the working group has participated in compiling the set of sustainable development indicators, drafting Estonian positions for Sustainable Development Goal negotiations and compiling the Estonian review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for the 2016 high-level political forum.

Next steps for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

The first actions connected to the 2030 Agenda were initiated during the process of compiling the national voluntary review. The preliminary gap analysis of governments' policies and the Sustainable Development Goals was conducted and its results were used as input for the review.

The Estonian Sustainable Development Commission has launched a review of the national sustainable development strategy, Sustainable Estonia 21, in the light of the 2030 Agenda and global trends. The analysis will be completed in the third quarter of 2016. It will contain recommendations regarding the renewal of the strategy and its implementation mechanisms.

The Estonian Statistics Office has conducted an initial overview of 231 global sustainable development indicators and approximately 14 per cent of the indicators are measurable right now. The renewal of sustainable development indicators will be started in 2016. The aim is to include indicators that help to measure achievements in the areas set out in the Sustainable Development Goals. It will allow the next indicator-based reports on sustainable development to provide information about performance regarding Estonian sustainable development goals and also global Sustainable Development Goals. A new list of indicators will be composed in cooperation with an interministerial working group, the Estonian Statistics Office and the Estonian Sustainable Development Commission.

Estonia will continue attaching great importance to the development of innovative technological solutions that help to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. In respect of lessons learned, the promotion of digital technology and e-governance solutions have contributed to Estonia's development in several areas, including economic growth and human development.

It is also important to find effective ways to raise general awareness of the 2030 Agenda and to continue contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals through international cooperation.

Status of implementation of the global Sustainable Development Goals: initial results and main challenges

The gap analysis of the policies of the Estonian governments and the Sustainable Development Goals and the mapping of policy measures showed that the Government of Estonia and the non-governmental sector were already implementing measures and taking actions in the areas of all 17 Goals. Some targets were covered partially or by means of international cooperation. Gap analysis identified only a few targets that were not covered by actions (for example, combating desertification and protecting ecosystems in mountains).

The mapping exercise indicated the areas where Estonia had achieved positive results. In the overall picture, the rich biodiversity protections, high share of renewables in the heating sector, inclusive regulatory process of the Government, quick and extensive access to public services through e-services and high quality and good accessibility of education stood out as Estonia's strengths.

However, the review also showed areas where the Estonian Government needs to make continued efforts towards its contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Estonia's own targets. The main challenges lie in achieving productivity growth, developing an energy- and resource-efficient economy, lowering carbon dioxide emissions per capita, achieving an improvement in the subsistence of low-income persons and tackling the gender pay gap.

Raising general awareness of the 2030 Agenda and creating ownership of the Goals also need further attention in Estonia. At the first conference introducing the Agenda to the wider public, which was organized in November 2015, the Minister of the Environment, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials and representatives from companies and civil society explained the global Sustainable Development Goals generally, as well as the possibilities for implementing the goals using the example of Goal 12 — sustainable production and consumption. Innovative and comprehensive solutions are needed to create awareness and increase actions for sustainable development.

Support for other countries

The new "Strategy for Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid 2016-2020"[4] is based on general international development agreements and goals, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, as well as the development policy decisions and guidelines of the European Union. The priorities of Estonian development cooperation are: (a) supporting the quality of education, (b) supporting the development of health care, (c) guaranteeing peace and stability, (d) supporting the development of democracy, introduction of good governance practices and guaranteeing human rights, (e) promoting economic development, (f) fostering environmentally friendly development, and (g) raising the awareness of the Estonian public, particularly

[4] Available from http://vm.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/development-cooperation/2016_2020_arengukava_eng_kodulehele_0.pdf.

younger people, concerning development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as global development problems.

Covering all areas, Estonia promotes more extensive application of information and communication technologies within the framework of development cooperation. Estonian experience in digital development, especially in e-governance and respective public-private partnerships has taught valuable lessons. We are ready to share these lessons with other countries.

Finland

[Original: English]

Long history of building ownership for sustainable development

Finland has a long tradition of promoting sustainable development both in domestic policies and in international development cooperation. Finland is committed to continuing those efforts in the future.

Finland was among the first countries to establish a National Commission on Sustainable Development, only one year after the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development was held in Rio de Janeiro. From the very beginning, there was a broad consensus that the Commission should be led by the Prime Minister and have wide stakeholder membership. This has been the leading modus operandi in Finland now for 23 years.

Finland has also implemented various programmes on sustainable development since the mid-1990s, which led to the adoption of a comprehensive national strategy for sustainable development (*Towards Sustainable Choices: a Nationally and Globally Sustainable Finland* (2006)). The latest strategy for sustainable development ("The Finland we want by 2050: society's commitment to sustainable development") was adopted in December 2013 and updated in April 2016 to bring it into line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Poverty eradication in the wider context of sustainable development has been the principal objective of Finnish development policy during the past decades. The most recent development policy, which is outlined in the government report on development policy (2016), is based on the 2030 Agenda.

The guiding principles for national policies and measures on sustainable development in Finland have been high-level political leadership, cross-ministerial guidance, policy coherence, long-term perspective, bottom-up planning multi-stakeholder participation and continuous dialogue based on mutual learning and trust. In addition, a robust and timely follow-up and review mechanism, including the development and use of sustainable development indicators, has been an integral part of the Finnish model.

Integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development as a guiding principle

One of the fundamental objectives in Finland since the 1992 Rio conference has been to integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development, aiming at linking economic prosperity, social justice and a good state of the environment in a mutually reinforcing way. This holistic approach has been facilitated by developing

integrative concepts, tools and indicators, and by establishing comprehensive national strategies and inclusive multi-stakeholder forums. In the national sustainable development framework the social dimension has been the most challenging. All in all, the ultimate aim has been improved policy coherence for sustainable development in both national and international policies, including Finnish development policy.

The most recent version of the strategic policy document on society's commitment to sustainable development, updated in April 2016, summarized the objective for sustainable development, stating that in 2050, every person in Finland would be an equal and valuable member of society and that Finland would be a skilful welfare society capable of renewing itself in the face of global changes, with further development of the welfare society enabled by a sustainable economy and growth in employment opportunities. It adds, "Together we will lay the foundation and provide necessary conditions for all people to live sustainably, and for communities and companies to operate sustainably. The carrying capacity of nature is not exceeded and natural resources are used in a sustainable manner. Finland will promote peace, equality, non-discrimination and justice nationally and internationally".

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Finland is well underway

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda was launched at a kick-off seminar in November 2015 in Helsinki, with many participants from public administration, municipalities, companies, civil society organizations, interest groups, schools and other partners. Even though the new global agenda attracts positive interest in Finnish society, raising awareness among the general public and engaging the society in action remains a huge challenge. Finland will respond to this challenge with a strengthened communications plan, to be designed together with civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda in a coherent, integrated and participatory way is a priority for Finland. This entails developing ways of working that will involve broad-based multi-stakeholder participation that includes all of civil society, academia, the private sector and local government. A multi-stakeholder approach will be of key importance for ensuring policy coherence for sustainable development and promoting accountability both at home and abroad.

National plan to implement Agenda 2030 prepared by the end of 2016

Finland is preparing for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a comprehensive and inclusive manner. The Government of Finland has the primary responsibility for the work, but civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders have an integral role in this endeavour. According to the government programme of Prime Minister Juha Sipilä, a national implementation plan for the 2030 Agenda will be drawn up by the end of 2016.

The plan will provide evidence-based information on the urgent need for action, and it will draw a baseline for Finnish action and identify Finland's strengths as well as major gaps and challenges to implementation. Additionally, the national plan will define the key executors, determine tools for and approaches to implementing an integrated agenda and define the division of labour and partnerships between the public, private and civil society actors in the work of

implementation. Further, the plan will outline the coordination, management, monitoring and review mechanisms. It will also offer a road map for the appropriate scheduling of activities and allocation of resources in Finland, in both domestic and external action.

Many elements of the national implementation plan have already been set. For example, the Government has updated its development policy so that it takes the 2030 Agenda as a starting point. The goal of Finnish development policy is to reduce poverty and inequality. The policy has four priorities: the rights of women and girls; reinforcing developing countries' economies to generate more jobs, improve livelihoods and enhance well-being; democratic and well-functioning societies, including taxation capacity; and food security, access to water and energy, and the sustainable use of natural resources.

However, as the implementation plan is to be completed only by the end of 2016, many processes and results still need to be finalized through political processes in the second half of the year. Therefore the present summary provides only a preliminary overview of the Finnish plans and measures for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Interministerial coordination for policy coherence in action

The Prime Minister's Office is in charge of coordinating the national implementation work and drawing up the national plan. The Office acts as the Coordination Secretariat, which includes representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Secretariat General of the National Commission on Sustainable Development. The Coordination Secretariat functions as an operational hub for coordination of the 2030 Agenda, and it works closely together with the coordination network, which comprises focal points from all government ministries and the Finnish Development Policy Committee.

The interministerial coordination network guides and supports the work of the Coordination Secretariat and ensures that all dimensions and aspects of sustainable development are taken into consideration in the implementation. The ministries are also the key executors of the 2030 Agenda through their sectoral programmes, strategies, legislation and implementation of international agreements and commitments.

Enabling multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships

The Government is responsible for designing the implementation plan and ensuring the timely realization of the 2030 Agenda in Finland. However, there are two major multi-stakeholder committees in Finland that have an integral role in the national coordination, implementation and follow-up system.

The Finnish Development Policy Committee is a parliamentary body whose mission is to follow the implementation of the global sustainable development agenda in Finland from the development policy perspective. It also monitors the implementation of the Government programme and the Government's development policy guidelines.

The National Commission on Sustainable Development is a Prime Minister-led partnership forum that has operated continuously in Finland for 23 years. Its aim is to integrate sustainable development into Finnish policies, measures and everyday

practices. The two main tasks of the National Commission are to follow up and review the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda and enhance the implementation of the strategy, "Society's commitment to sustainable development".

Both committees were re-mandated for a four-year period in 2016. Membership of the committees is broad, thereby ensuring that the voices of civil society organizations, private sector actors, interest groups and other stakeholders are heard. To improve policy coherence for sustainable development, collaboration between the two committees has been intensified since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, for example, through joint meetings, workshops and discussion papers.

In addition, an interdisciplinary sustainable development expert panel, comprising eight professors and senior academics, challenges and advances the work of the National Commission on Sustainable Development and adds a critical voice to the sustainability debate, when needed.

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda is also supported by Finnish civil society, which has actively started to reorganize its internal cooperation structures to promote new kinds of partnerships in the holistic spirit of the global agenda.

Finland is committed to strengthening the existing means and finding innovative ways to increase the civic, public and private participation and build ownership. Reaching out to the local communities, children and youth, people with disabilities and migrants is a special challenge in Finland. The new modes of participation will be considered as part of the process of designing the national implementation plan for the 2030 Agenda in the course of 2016.

As part of Finland's presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2016, the potential for Nordic cooperation in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will be mapped. The results will thereafter be used as input to the preparation of a Nordic programme on implementation of the Agenda.

Addressing the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals in a systematic way

To put the 2030 Agenda into practice in Finland, integrated policies will be carried out and measures will be taken in various policy sectors as part of the implementation of national and European Union legislation, national sectoral or thematic strategies and action plans and international agreements and commitments.

To guide the preparation of the national plan to implement the 2030 Agenda, the Prime Minister's Office of Finland asked all line ministries to identify the existing policies, measures, activities and budgets covering the 17 Goals and 169 targets. The mapping also served as a means to make all line ministries familiar with the whole agenda and draw attention away from silos.

The results of the mapping are an important source of information for a more comprehensive gap analysis to be completed by July 2016. The gap analysis is being carried out jointly by the Finnish Environment Institute and Demos Helsinki, a think tank, and it aims to ensure the wide participation of various stakeholders in the consultation and stocktaking process. The analysis looks into Finland's readiness to implement the global 2030 Agenda. The objective is to draw a baseline for implementation and to point out goals and targets for which Finland has to take the

most action to catch up. The analysis will also pinpoint the areas in which Finland is performing well.

The intention of the gap analysis is to identify national focus areas based on a meta-analysis of existing international Sustainable Development Goal benchmark studies and global Sustainable Development Goal indicators. The work will also take into account the national consultative multi-stakeholder process and expert assessments. It will position Finland globally and in relation to Finland's peer countries, especially the member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The analysis will also indicate the major challenges to the further development of the indicators.

According to the updated national strategy, Society's Commitment to Sustainable Development, Finland's challenges regarding sustainable development include the safeguarding of the welfare State while the population ages; the sustainability gap and changes in the economy; high carbon dioxide emissions relative to the size of the population; the protection of biodiversity; and the sustainable, fair and efficient use of natural resources. The challenge is to create a sustainable economy that generates welfare and contributes to the quality of life and that at the same time leads to a reduction in detrimental impacts on the environment. To be able to attain the objectives set for sustainable development in the international context, Finland needs to honour its commitments to financing development cooperation.

Various international studies on countries' readiness to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (for instance, Bertelsmann Stiftung, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and the Stakeholder Forum) provide largely uniform findings with regard to Finland's challenges. According to the studies, Finland's readiness to start implementing the 2030 Agenda is good in general terms. Finland's main challenges, however, apply to environmental, economic and employment questions and, to a certain extent, to gender ones. Energy intensity, domestic materials consumption, production-based energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, terrestrial protected areas and the unemployment rate are among the indicators that lower Finland's performance in Goals 7, 8, 12, 13 and 15. In terms of gender equality, Finland ranks high, but in regard to gender-based violence or the gender pay gap, there is still much to be done. Finland's status in more socially related goals, especially in poverty (Goal 1), health (Goal 3) and education (Goal 4), is fairly good.

As part of the gap analysis process, Finnish experts, civil society organizations and other stakeholders were provided an opportunity to analyse the results of the international studies and give their views on the national strengths and weaknesses. The results of those interactive hearings strongly support the findings of the international studies. However, with regard to Finland's relative strengths, especially concerning the Sustainable Development Goals on education, equality and poverty, the stakeholders emphasized the need to ensure that Finland does not take its good status for granted. Instead, Finland must safeguard the Nordic welfare society and ensure its high performance in these Goals in the future as well.

All in all, Finland considers the 2030 Agenda, its principles, goals and targets and means of implementation as a universal, integrated and indivisible whole: all 17 Goals and 169 targets are to be implemented by all countries. The results of the gap analysis will give guidance to Finland regarding which issues to focus on during

the first years of implementation. National relevance and urgency will be the key drivers for early implementation in Finland. At the same time, Finland aims to ensure that the whole Agenda will be addressed in the next 15 years. By the end of 2016, a decision will be made through a participatory political process on how the goals and targets will be phased as part of the preparations for the national plan to implement the Agenda.

Innovative tools to boost concrete action and results

To generate action, put sustainable development into practice and engage larger segments of the society in the work on sustainable development, "The Finland we want by 2050 — society's commitment to sustainable development" was launched in 2013 by the National Commission on Sustainable Development. Society's Commitment to Sustainable Development offers a strategic framework and a multi-stakeholder operational tool for sustainable development. It is a new partnership model that aims at boosting ownership, concrete action, innovative solutions and impact throughout the society.

The vision of Society's Commitment is a prosperous and globally responsible Finland within the carrying capacity of nature, and it can be achieved by implementing the eight shared objectives identified in this strategy for sustainable development. By April 2016, over 240 actors, from companies to ministries, and schools, municipalities and civil society organizations as well as individuals, had already joined Society's Commitment by launching their own operational commitments.

Society's Commitment was updated early in 2016 to bring it into line with 2030 Agenda. The work on updating Society's Commitment was done in close dialogue with members of the National Commission on Sustainable Development, encompassing approximately 90 civil society, industry, business, labour market and educational organizations, as well as representatives of the Government, Parliament, ministries, local and regional organizations, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, the Sámi indigenous peoples and other public, private and third sector stakeholders. In particular, Society's Commitment was strengthened with regard to the global dimension, resilience and equality.

In early 2016, a task force, engaging members from the National Commission on Sustainable Development and the Finnish Development Policy Committee, was set up to develop new tools and governance models to enhance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The task force aims to address challenges related to, for example, strengthening the long-term perspective, enhancing policy coherence, building stakeholder ownership, mobilizing resources and building reflective processes to support implementation.

The contribution of the private sector in promoting sustainable development is significant both at home and abroad. It is important that the financial flows of the private sector support sustainable development in developing countries. By offering sustainable solutions across the world and ensuring, for its own part, that global production chains are sustainable, Finland and Finnish companies can make a major contribution to sustainable development.

Mechanisms for monitoring, accountability and review being developed

Finland is committed to providing a systematic, open, transparent, inclusive and participatory follow-up to and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and targets at all levels. To ensure accountability to citizens and the global community, the progress and achievements will be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. The Finnish Development Policy Committee and the National Commission on Sustainable Development will play a crucial role in the follow-up and review. The role of the national Parliament and all political parties is considered fundamental in this work and is currently under discussion.

According to an initial overview of the data availability of the global sustainable development indicators in Finland, approximately 40 per cent of the indicators are readily measurable and about the same percentage can be measured with extra resources.

The state of and trends in sustainable development in Finland are being monitored and reviewed with the use of 39 national sustainable development indicators. The indicators were identified in 2014 to measure the progress of the eight strategic objectives of Society's Commitment. They will be revised and updated to lend themselves to the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda and thus complement the global sustainable development indicators. A specific indicator network, comprising experts from statistics, research, evaluation, policy and stakeholder groups, will be set up for this purpose in 2016. The work on the indicators will be part of the national monitoring and review scheme of the implementation of the Agenda.

Regarding Finnish development cooperation, a results-based management approach and evaluation criteria apply not only to the Finnish contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in developing countries, but to Finland itself, as a global partner in Goal 17.

France

[Original: English and French]

France strongly supported the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which sets 17 Sustainable Development Goals for the world to eradicate extreme poverty, combat inequalities and protect the planet.

This first universal approach provides a new framework for development policies for the next 15 years. It builds on the eight Millennium Development Goals implemented since 2000, which have contributed to real progress in tackling hunger, poverty and child mortality, rolling back pandemics and improving access to water and education.

Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, the new Sustainable Development Goals have a universal dimension and apply to all development challenges in all countries. In addition to the poverty reduction goals, the agenda features new goals to which France is equally committed with respect to environmental protection, gender equality, universal medical coverage, tackling illicit financial flows and corruption, and good governance.

Given our long-standing, unremitting commitment to sustainable development, France has volunteered to present its 2030 Agenda implementation approach at the very first high-level political forum on sustainable development held since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

The present report draws on consultations with civil society to present a first review of the implementation of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in France, identifying the main issues and challenges, government courses of action and good practices and model measures already in place, in a spirit of experience-sharing.

Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in France: accomplishments and challenges

France has achieved a high standard of living and quality of life driven by inclusive social security systems (unemployment benefits, supplementary benefits and a redistribution policy) and access for all to health care and basic goods and services (water, energy, quality food and education). The country has also developed state-of-the-art public and private infrastructure (innovation and research, transport, communications and cultural heritage).

Nevertheless, there is still work to be done, especially to reduce social, educational and gender inequalities, maintain healthy ecosystems and manage natural resources sustainably. In a climate of low growth, despite a downturn in recent months, unemployment remains persistently too high, especially among young people.

France implements the Paris Agreement on climate change and promotes sustainable development

On 17 August 2015, well before the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Law on Energy Transition for Green Growth gave legislative shape to France's voluntary commitment to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 40 per cent below 1990 levels by 2030.

The act sets targets to increase the share of renewable energy sources to over 30 per cent of final energy consumption in 2030 and bring down the share of nuclear power in electricity generation to 50 per cent by 2025.

The Parliament, under government leadership, authorized a climate-energy contribution on greenhouse gas emissions, built into the taxes on petroleum products and already adopted by Parliament, which is set to increase from 56 euros per tonne of carbon dioxide in 2020 to 100 euros per tonne of carbon dioxide in 2030. The Government will propose that Parliament introduce a price floor on carbon of some 30 euros per tonne in the power generation sector in 2017.

In June 2016, France was one of the first industrialized countries to complete its domestic process for ratification of the Paris Agreement, and the country is working with its European partners for the European Union in its entirety to ratify it as soon as possible. As a contribution to rapidly increasing collective achievement, France committed to upgrade its mitigation target by 2020.

France, a land of positive energy for green growth

In 2013, the French Government launched the new face of industry in France initiative to position French businesses in new economic growth markets. The projects were backed by the initiative's mainstream environmental goals.

Two industrial solutions focus in particular on the energy transition: new resources and sustainable cities. The Government's industry of the future programme, designed to modernize the French productive machine and based on the use of digital technologies, also includes a goal to improve the energy efficiency of industrial processes.

As testing grounds for the ecological transition, local authorities are encouraged to put into place solutions to develop energy-smart housing retrofits and efficient public transport networks funded by the energy transition fund (with a three-year budget of 350 million euros), to promote a low-carbon footprint and green urban areas and to tackle social-spatial segregation. Rural areas are also part of this environmental approach, with the promotion of agroecology to produce safe, sufficient food.

France, as one of the 10 countries with the largest number of endangered species, owing mainly to pressures overseas and in the Mediterranean, has taken measures to protect its marine and land ecosystems against artificial land cover, overexploitation of resources, climate change and pollution.

The French bill for the restoration of biodiversity, nature and landscapes, which is currently being debated, thus provides for the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the acknowledgement of the notion of ecological prejudice, the establishment of action plans for all threatened species in France, the enhancement of protection of marine biodiversity, the prohibition of neonicotinoids and the exchange of traditional seeds.

The Government is working for employment

In December 2015, France's unemployment rate stood at 10.2 per cent, just below average for the eurozone (10.4 per cent). However, the country posted 25.9 per cent for under-25 jobseekers compared with 19.7 per cent for the eurozone.

Three years ago, France introduced a plan to tackle unemployment on the basis of three priorities:

- The first priority is to reduce social security costs, mainly with the emergency plan for employment, which should see one million people hired in 2016.
- The second priority is to improve vocational training with the reform of the national vocational training system and measures taken in 2016 to double the number of training courses for jobseekers. The aim is to train a total of 1 million people or 20 per cent of all jobseekers.
- Lastly, although an average 600,000 employees will retire each year up to 2020, a total of 700,000 young people per year will enter the labour market at the same time. The Act of 1 March 2013 hence introduced the intergenerational contract to foster youth employment. The scheme hires

young people on open-ended contracts, retains older workers and smooths the transfer of vocational skills. In September 2015, over 100,000 young and older workers were on an intergenerational contract.

Although this ambitious policy is starting to pay off, the number of young people entering the labour market every year calls for a proactive employment policy combined with a revised industrial policy.

A high-quality social solidarity system whose financial sustainability needs to be protected

In the last 70 years, France has developed a social security system that protects people living in France from social risks (illness, accidents and family welfare) and pays them a pension in retirement.

Any person residing legally in France is also guaranteed a minimum income and essential services (access to education, housing benefits, a power supply and culture, for example) as social inclusion and poverty exit mechanisms. These take the form of welfare, supplementary benefits and free public services.

France also promotes access to culture and national heritage for all population groups, in particular with programmes for young people from disadvantaged areas.

The preceding measures are provided mainly by central or local government, but civil society also makes a significant contribution. Associations and many businesses play an important solidarity role, with free meals as well as literacy, social reintegration and back-to-work activities.

France also redistributes wealth across the nation. Former industrial areas, for example, receive funds to finance their redevelopment.

The system, driven by social and intergenerational solidarity, relies on continued efforts to restore the balance of the social security accounts in order for it to maintain the same, if not higher, level of quality.

Work remains to be done to reduce social inequalities

In France today, one in seven households lives below the poverty line (income of less than 960 euros per month) and one in five children is highly vulnerable. A total of 22 per cent of the people below the poverty line live in a situation of food insecurity.

With 78.3 per cent of baccalaureate holders in one generation in 2015, France has virtually achieved its target of an 80 per cent pass rate for the baccalaureate. Nevertheless, the weight of social class in academic achievement remains high, and an estimated 20 per cent of pupils have academic difficulties.

In terms of remuneration, men still earn 23.5 per cent more on average than women for the same number of working hours, especially in executive positions.

As the bedrock for social unity and cohesion, tackling inequalities calls for new social mobility drivers. The French Government is totally committed to this, and a particular effort is being made in the most disadvantaged areas, from the neighbourhood to the regional level, to identify the main factors of inequality and reduce them, by means of education and training in particular.

Social inequalities go hand-in-hand with environmental inequalities. Consequently, public policies in France are also designed to reduce exposure to risks and hazards (pollution, natural disasters, and the like), tackle fuel poverty and facilitate access to nature for all.

Actions to improve fundamental rights and participatory democracy

France is a well-established democracy based on a robust political and legal system, which offers sound guarantees to French citizens and foreign nationals to effectively assert their rights. Respect for human rights and equality of all citizens before the law, without distinction of gender, race or religion, is written into the French Constitution and guaranteed by the courts.

The framework has been improved in recent years with the introduction of independent administrative authorities and scaled-up court supervision, especially when public and individual freedoms and legislative measures such as legalizing same-sex marriage are at stake.

France has also taken new measures to improve the transparency of political life, streamline administrative formalities and deepen our democratic tools, based especially on the use of digital means (public consultations, consensus conferences and local referendums). Every year, the environmental conference thus mobilizes the whole Government to seek responses to the demands of civil society representatives, including those of local governments, unions, businesses and non-governmental organizations.

An international development policy for sustainable development

France, fifth largest global donor, commits to increasing its international solidarity effort

From 2013 to 2015, French bilateral aid helped put 2.6 million children in primary and middle school, gave 3.8 million people access to a sustainable source of clean drinking water and supported the development of 150,000 small businesses.

France has renewed its pledge to scale up its official development assistance, which stood at 8.3 billion euros or 0.37 per cent of gross national income in 2015, 22 per cent of which went to the least developed countries.

The target is to reach the collective European Union goal of official development assistance standing at 0.7 per cent of gross national income by 2030, with a special effort made for the least developed countries (a short-term target of from 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of gross national income).

To that end, France has earmarked an additional 4 billion euros per year to fund development by 2020, including 2 billion euros for climate change action, bringing the French Agency for Development's volume of financial assistance to over 12.5 billion euros per year. Accordingly, it will increase the volume of funds allocated to climate change adaptation to 1 billion euros per year in 2020. Lastly, France will allocate nearly 400 million more euros in grants by 2020 compared with their current level.

France is a global advocate of sustainable development

In July 2014, the pluriannual development and international solidarity policy act was passed, prior to the 2030 Agenda. The act focuses on the various dimensions of sustainable development (economic growth, poverty eradication and protecting the planet), stresses the need for an integrated approach and includes non-governmental players in the definition of priorities for action.

In 2013, France set the French Development Agency the ambitious target of supporting at least 50 per cent of projects with a climate co-benefit, a target that it has already achieved.

France proposed a reform of global environmental governance, which has seen the scaling up of the United Nations Environment Programme. In the scientific field, France made a strong commitment to set up the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Similarly, France worked closely on the negotiations for the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and actively promoted a number of objectives high on its list of development policy priorities: environmental and climate sustainability; gender equality (especially sexual and reproductive health and rights); universal health coverage; transparency, with a governance and rule of law objective; and sustainable cities.

France hosted and chaired the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which led to the first universal agreement on climate that calls for respect for human rights and recognition of the specific role of women, and has since then called for rapid ratification by all the parties.

Together with Conference of the Parties hosts Peru (2014) and Morocco (2016), France encouraged all civil society players to rally to the cause under the Lima-Paris Action Agenda, which today unites 10,000 players from over 180 countries working in 70 international and multipartner coalitions.

Lastly, France also actively defends the principle of carbon pricing at the European and international levels.

France takes an innovative approach to sustainable development tools and financing

In 2004, France took the initiative, with Brazil and Chile, to propose putting into place international solidarity taxes on activities that benefit the most from globalization to provide innovative development financing, in addition to budget resources. It introduced the taxes on airline tickets and financial transactions, providing funding to tackle pandemics and take climate change action.

France fully supports the broad, modern vision of development financing, rallying all stakeholders and available sources of financing, as endorsed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda adopted by the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in July 2015.

To that end, the French Development Agency has a wide range of financial tools, including grants, soft and hard loans to public and private partners equity stakes and guarantees, and cooperation with an array of players. It is one of the rare

development institutions able to directly assist local government bodies. Private sector engagement in development policies is also encouraged.

In 2016, France adopted a strategy entitled "Let's innovate together" to prompt businesses to take corporate social responsibility to the next level and encourage social and cooperative economic initiatives. France has also stepped up its support for non-State entities in recent years with the aim of doubling funds allocated to non-governmental organizations from 2012 to 2017.

Different tools are used depending on the partner country's level of development and the issues addressed. By way of illustration, two thirds of French Development Agency grants are earmarked for 16 priority poor countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

Early in 2016, France launched a reform of its development cooperation mechanism by establishing links between the French Development Agency and the deposits and loans fund, giving the agency a larger budget to build its intervention capacities and its multipartner dimension.

Method used to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: the choice of a participatory framework

Interministerial coordination based on the Prime Minister's authority and Ministers' personal commitment

The Interministerial Representative for Sustainable Development and General Commissioner for Sustainable Development steered the drafting of the present report, the first on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in accordance with the request of the Prime Minister. She heads up the network of senior officials for sustainable development.

On 6 June 2016, Ségolène Royal, Minister of the Environment, Energy and Marine Affairs, in charge of Sustainable Development, and André Vallini, Minister of State for Development and Francophonie, launched consultative workshops on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The workshops, held at the end of sustainable development week, were attended by over 180 participants from all walks of life, including international solidarity, the environment, social sectors and education.

Work under way to develop indicators to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

France has been closely involved in the process of defining global indicators to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals. The indicators will be formally endorsed by the General Assembly in the near future. With the statistical departments of all the ministries, the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE) is already conducting a feasibility study of production at the national level. The government statistics system should be able to produce just over half of the indicators (given or comparable definition) in the short to medium term. The indicators could be transposed nationally.

In keeping with the objective of developing new wealth indicators, France adopted the Act of 13 April 2015, which provided the basis for 10 new wealth indicators. The indicators are presented in the full report (see

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2016/france) and are to be factored into public policymaking to extend the measurement of progress beyond mere gross domestic product. They cover employment, investment, national debt, health, inequalities, education, environmental protection and happiness.

The indicators, driven by the 2030 Agenda, are consistent with the national reform programme, which is the national version of the European Commission's Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

The Government has chosen broad-based engagement with civil society, starting with the pilot phase

France considers that the involvement of civil society, the private sector and the general public is key to the success of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and, more generally, to the success of public policymaking. It considers that deepening democracy is one of the best responses to the rise of all forms of radicalism and exclusion.

Representative civil society bodies at the national level, such as the National Council for Ecological Transition, the National Council for Development and International Solidarity and the National Advisory Commission for Human Rights, were consulted in the preparation of this report. The Prime Minister also gave the Economic, Social and Environmental Council the task of submitting a report to the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development at its next meeting in the fourth quarter of 2016.

A committee of international experts was set up to inform government thinking on the development of the next national action plan. The multidisciplinary nature of the committee is designed to guarantee a holistic approach to the challenges and better capture the systemic nature of the Sustainable Development Goals.

A public consultation process open to all has been launched on the Internet to guarantee its inclusiveness.

Next steps: develop a national action plan for the Sustainable Development Goals

A national action plan will be developed, working with all players at each stage (definition, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and regular reviews).

Under a parliamentary mission mandate, the ministries' general inspectorates could analyse sector policies conducted in their areas to produce a more detailed public policy evaluation with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals. The findings of the evaluations could form the basis of recommendations and inform the public and civil debate.

The national action plan will be driven by the desire to achieve the broadest possible mobilization towards the success of the Sustainable Development Goals: a shared vision; government measures and public policy guidelines for sustainable development; assistance to players in their fields of activity, especially economic players; citizens' ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals; a roll-out at all levels (national, regional and local); international cooperation, especially with the European Union, the International Organization of the Francophonie and the United Nations; and synergies between and promotion of initiatives and good practices by all players.

Regional consultative workshops could be held in the fourth quarter of 2016 for local players to take up the Sustainable Development Goals and contribute to the national action plan. Shared local assessments could be conducted to identify the assets and challenges of the French mainland and overseas regions with respect to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The regional economic, social and environmental councils could be usefully associated with the assessments.

A participatory Internet platform will offer an open digital commons to all players and citizens to disseminate good practices and recommendations, monitor progress and rally coalitions.

Onboarding the Sustainable Development Goals could also be placed on the agenda of a future meeting of the Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development.

Every year, European sustainable development week will be a time to galvanize and promote the projects of actors in society.

Georgia

[Original: English]

Nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals: the process so far

After the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in New York in September 2015, the Government of Georgia undertook an initiative to contribute to sustainable development through voluntary efforts, as a continuation of the implementation process for the Millennium Development Goals. That process was a key driver and basis for progress with regard to Georgia's development goals. Furthermore, the signing of the Association Agreement with the European Union and the implementation of the Visa Liberalization Action Plan helped the country to undertake and advance fundamental institutional reform. Still, much remains to be done and in the coming years the Government of Georgia will be focusing on sustainable development activities aimed at providing real opportunities to its citizens and improving their living standards.

Georgia has undertaken active measures to adjust the sustainable development agenda and its targets to the national circumstances, and to advance their implementation.

Institutional mechanism

The Administration of the Government of Georgia established a joint technical working group, including experts from various line ministries and the National Statistics Office, to facilitate the introduction of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level and to discuss the process for their nationalization. Reasonable efforts have been made to identify goals and targets of direct relevance to Georgia and map their linkages with the country's policies and plans. The Sustainable Development Goals have been well fitted into national policies and have also been integrated into a strategic umbrella document, the Annual Governmental Work Plan, and other national, multisectoral strategies and action plans.

The introduction at the local level of the Sustainable Development Goals has been done in accordance with the national context, challenges and opportunities. In

2015, Georgia prioritized a set of 14 goals out of the total 17, as well as 88 global targets.

The adjusted version of goals and targets covers preferences for economic growth and addresses a range of social needs, including education, health care, social protection and job opportunities, climate change mitigation and environmental protection, the elimination of inequality, energy and consumption.

Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals

With the support of the National Statistics Office of Georgia, a reliable information base has been analysed to fix the baseline indicators for each target in order to see the right direction to follow and establish a level of progress to be attained in the future. The National Statistics Office has worked with the line ministries to collect the relevant data and analyse certain weaknesses of the disaggregated statistics. In this regard, by early in 2016 nearly 120 indicators have been identified as baseline data, although, for the time being, the lack of statistical data remains a challenge to establishing reliable quantitative indicators.

The Government of Georgia intends to support local audiences in linking goals to their concerns and to review progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals with the engagement of the private sector and non-governmental organizations. For these purposes, in April 2016, under the UNDP-funded programme "Continuation of inclusive dialogue with regard to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda", introductory meetings were held in five regions of Georgia, with the aim of raising the awareness of local government, the private sector and civil society concerning the Sustainable Development Goals. The programme was implemented by the Civil Development Agency and the Administration of the Government of Georgia.

Next steps

Georgia has already selected options for its next activities to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the national level. Before the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the Government of Georgia intends to set up thematic working groups on human rights, social inclusion, economic growth and environmental protection issues, with the aim of establishing complementary national indicators and adapting global ones to suit the national priorities. Participation in the groups will be broad and multi-stakeholder; they will be composed of representatives of line ministries, the National Statistics Office and the non-governmental sector.

The Government will foster dialogue for the development of more comprehensive implementation and accountability mechanisms, with a crucial step in successful implementation being building public awareness and engaging local stakeholders. The Administration of the Government of Georgia plans to organize thematic meetings with representatives of the private sector to help them understand how they can leverage the Sustainable Development Goals to establish good practices and opportunities for growth.

The Government will ensure that statistical systems, capacities and methodologies are in place to track progress and ensure accountability, with the engagement of national stakeholders. As a next step, the above-mentioned thematic

working groups will capture the specificities of the development needs in order to strengthen national statistical capacities and data collection. On the basis of the statistical gaps identified, supplementary research will be organized and conducted in this sector, although this process will face difficulties in terms of the additional financial resources required. Efforts must continue to be made to upgrade the Georgian statistics system, which will allow for closer monitoring of the attainment of the goals enunciated in the 2030 Agenda and thus for the creation of a more refined system of reporting. The Government of Georgia will continue to review its existing cross-sectoral policy, to identify areas for change vis-à-vis the 2030 Agenda.

Germany

[Original: English]

The adoption of General Assembly resolution 70/1, "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", was a milestone in the recent history of the United Nations. This comprehensive Agenda is a reflection of the conviction that global challenges can be tackled only through concerted efforts, efforts that must be based on systematic application of the principle of sustainable development across all policy areas and in every country. The international community has made a clear statement that resolute action must be taken to achieve a transformation towards sustainable development. Global and universally applicable sustainable development goals (the Sustainable Development Goals) point to how we can achieve poverty reduction, an improvement in living conditions worldwide and the protection of our planet.

Sustainable development means assuming responsibility, both for the present and for future generations, nationally and internationally. To make it happen, the 2030 Agenda calls for Governments, the economy and society to change and take action at the global, regional and national levels to ensure sustainability. Germany committed to ambitious implementation of the agenda from the very outset and has already taken some first important steps towards putting it into practice at the national level.

Our starting point

Although Germany has on the whole achieved a very high level of development, further efforts are needed to meet the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level, and in doing so also to make appropriate contributions to meeting the Goals globally.

The Government of Germany has decided to make its national sustainable development strategy a key framework for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Germany. Work on revising it in the light of the 2030 Agenda's ambition and goal structure is scheduled to be completed by the fourth quarter of 2016.

The national sustainable development strategy

Promoting sustainable development is one of the German Government's fundamental goals in all its activities and the yardstick it uses to measure them. As early as 2002, the Government presented its first national sustainable development strategy. Since then, it has reported on its implementation status every four years in the form of progress reports that also update the strategy's content. The preparation

of the progress reports is always accompanied by a broad-based process of dialogue and consultation with civil society groups. The national sustainable development strategy has included national sustainability goals and indicators since the very outset in 2002. They make it possible to regularly measure progress and identify any wrong turns in policy. Every two years, the Federal Statistical Office publishes an independent indicator report with information about progress towards meeting the goals.

The State Secretaries' Committee for Sustainable Development steers implementation of the sustainable development strategy and oversees the updating of its content. It comprises representatives from all federal ministries and is chaired by the Head of the Federal Chancellery. The Committee provides strategic input for the work of the Government of Germany and acts as a forum for the various government departments to share information on their sustainability activities at a high level.

The Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development monitors the German Government's national sustainable development strategy and supports sustainability concerns in parliament. The Parliamentary Advisory Council has also been assigned to evaluate the obligatory sustainability impact assessment of the Federal Government.

The German Council for Sustainable Development, an independent advisory council, has been supporting the German Government since 2001 and promotes societal dialogue on sustainability. It consists of 15 public figures who, by virtue of their professional and personal background, represent the economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable development in its national and international dimensions.

The key principles guiding the national sustainability policy are intergenerational equity, quality of life, social cohesion and international responsibility.

Owing to the sustainability principle's high political significance and its cross-cutting approach, the Federal Chancellery is the lead agency for the national sustainable development strategy. Concurrently, all ministries have the primary responsibility for their own contributions to implementing the sustainable development strategy and the 2030 Agenda in their respective policy fields.

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda is carried out within the framework of the budgetary and fiscal requirements of the Federal Government.

When seeking to implement proposed measures, especially before amendments to legislation, the Government engages in a dialogue with stakeholders and other relevant parties. This creates an opportunity to explain the proposed measures and enables stakeholders to articulate their ideas, criticisms and suggestions for improvements. The dialogue often improves the quality of government actions and increases public acceptance of government decisions.

Embracing the spirit of a new global partnership, the Government of Germany is putting the process of dialogue with the above-mentioned actors concerning the ongoing redrafting of the national sustainable development strategy on an even broader footing. In five public dialogue conferences held in all regions of Germany, ministers from the federal states, State secretaries and other representatives of

federal, state and community-level government engaged with a broad range of actors from the private sector, academia and civil society to discuss the requirements for a new sustainability strategy. The results were taken into account in the writing of the first draft of the reissue of the sustainable development strategy 2016 under the auspices of the Federal Chancellery. The new strategy was presented by the Federal Chancellor on 31 May 2016 and was simultaneously published on the Internet. The public was able to comment on the draft over the course of several weeks, both orally at a public hearing in the Chancellery and in writing.

For many years, the Government of Germany has also held a dialogue forum three or four times a year, in which it exchanges ideas and information on the international sustainability agenda with representatives of non-governmental organizations, churches, local authorities, the scientific and academic communities and the private sector. The "Charter for the future", published by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in 2014, is a further attempt to involve civil society actors, especially in the dialogue to promote global sustainable development. Since 2014, discussions have been held, with the involvement of over 100 organizations and initiatives and members of the public, on how to create opportunities for the future for everyone worldwide and on what our responsibility in Germany is in this regard.

Ongoing support for other countries

German development policy in recent years has been systematically geared to improving global conditions in the environmental, social, economic and political sense in order to eliminate the causes of poverty and promote global sustainable development. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the political priorities of our policy are based on its five core areas: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. German development policy focuses in particular on the following:

- Combating the structural causes of hunger and malnutrition and eradicating extreme poverty
- Creating sustainable opportunities for the future, particularly for young people, and tackling the causes of flight (especially through education and training, employment and structural investments in the green economy, social infrastructure and good Statehood)
- Making globalization equitable, in particular by promoting fair trade and income and job opportunities that ensure sustainable livelihoods, with particular emphasis on promoting responsible supply chains and minimum social and environmental standards
- Promoting sustainable development in the private sector and private investment, and taking into account the ability of the partner countries to contribute financially to their own development
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation and conservation of natural resources.

Promoting good governance and gender equality are cross-cutting tasks that are also an important element in the bilateral and multilateral dialogue on development policy. In line with the new Global Partnership for Sustainable

Development, the Government of Germany is aiming to cooperate with its partners on an equal footing and to continually improve efficiency and effectiveness.

The preceding principles are being implemented through numerous bilateral and multilateral initiatives and programmes.

In addition to the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Foreign Office, numerous other government departments are actively pursuing international cooperation.

The international climate initiative of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety has been funding climate and biodiversity projects in developing countries, emerging economies and countries in transition since 2008, along with projects to implement the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Vision Zero Fund, a global fund initiated by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and supported by the Group of Seven, mobilizes practical support for poorer producing countries in their attempts to improve health and safety in the workplace.

In regard to the percentage of official development assistance, Germany's ODA has increased steadily in recent years; the Office of Economic Cooperation and Development's latest ODA estimate for 2015 shows continual increases to around 16 billion euros. That makes Germany the third-largest donor in absolute figures; Germany's ODA rose to 0.52 per cent of its gross national income in 2015. Spending on development cooperation continues to be one of the Government's top priorities. It has continuously increased its spending in recent years and a further rise is planned for 2017. The Government has also mobilized finance and implementation funds by specifically promoting involvement of the private sector.

For many years, the Government of Germany has also proactively advocated for a strengthened sustainability policy in regional and international forums.

How the present report was produced: process, participation, methodology and structure

The aim of the present report is to describe the steps the Government of Germany has already taken and those it plans to take in the future to implement the 2030 Agenda. The report includes details of the efforts to prepare implementation, the processes involved in adapting our policies and the way in which all stakeholders are included in the implementation process. In this sense, it describes the path Germany has taken for the implementation of the Agenda, but it also makes initial statements about specific arrangements, actions, engagements, experiences and priorities. It reports on all 17 Goals set out in the Agenda.

It was important for the Government of Germany to involve civil society and private sector stakeholders in preparing the report. Therefore, it was discussed in the dialogue forum on the 2030 Agenda with representatives of non-governmental organizations, churches, local authorities and the scientific and academic communities, who had the opportunity to engage in a critical exchange of views. A representative of civil society in Germany was also scheduled to speak when the report was presented at the high-level political forum on sustainable development in

New York. This gives a clear signal that the 2030 Agenda and its implementation in Germany is a project that involves the whole of society.

What the Sustainable Development Goals will change in Germany: steps and contributions towards implementation

Integrating the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals into national implementation

In preparing the new edition of its national sustainable development strategy, the Government of Germany is engaging with each individual Sustainable Development Goal and defining the need for action relevant for Germany in the particular associated field. In doing so, it will strive to factor in the international dimension of Germany's actions in an appropriate manner. For the Government, the universal applicability of the 2030 Agenda means that it will make appropriate contributions towards meeting all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, both in its national policies and internationally.

The Government is therefore considering its involvement in terms of the impacts on three levels:

- First, with regard to implementation and impacts in Germany
- Secondly, with regard to impacts in other countries and on global public goods, that is, on global well-being (worldwide impacts, for example, from trade or climate policy)
- Third, with regard to supporting other countries (our international cooperation policy), the 17 Goals, and also these three levels of impact, are closely interwoven and cannot be considered in isolation.

"Leave no one behind" is a cross-cutting principle running through the whole of the 2030 Agenda. In the next 15 years, even greater efforts than have been made to date will be needed to reach sections of the population in Germany and worldwide that are disadvantaged and/or suffer from discrimination and to improve their situation in a sustainable way.

Germany delivers relevant contributions for all the Sustainable Development Goals on the basis of its capacities and circumstances. The full-length report will describe Germany's approaches to implementation of each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The Goals are globally applicable and simultaneously defined so as to provide guidance to each country in its efforts to flesh out the details nationally.

Madagascar

[Original: French]

The notion of sustainable development has been gradually incorporated in national policies in Madagascar as a result of the technical and institutional implications of its Environment Charter, which was introduced in the 1970s, and the implementation of Agenda 21 and the eight Millennium Development Goals. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to which Madagascar is a signatory along with 193 other countries, constitutes a universal framework for international development for the next 15 years, with 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

The 2030 Agenda should enable all countries to work together to achieve common — but not uniform — goals and to redirect their development policies and ensure the sustainable use of resources for inclusive and equitable development, leaving no one behind. The international adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015 coincided with a particularly challenging context in Madagascar. The country had implemented a new reference framework for development, the national development plan for 2015-2019; political stability was still fragile, despite the progress made in the democratic process; the economy was marked by low growth, a poverty rate that remained high at 70 per cent, inequality and high unemployment, food insecurity and vulnerability to shocks, in particular natural disasters; and the human development level was low, with Madagascar ranked 155th out of 189 countries and 169th out of 175 countries in the 2014 and 2015 human development reports, respectively.

Madagascar is one of the countries that had not achieved the Millennium Development Goals at the end of 2015, despite having genuine development potential. The implementation of the national development plan and the Sustainable Development Goal process should set the country on the path towards development for all and the building of a modern and prosperous State.

The Government is drawing on the lessons learned from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda process to meet these challenges and seize the opportunities for sustainable development in Madagascar. In this regard, the launch of the process has already begun to bring to light that there is good national ownership and prioritization of the Sustainable Development Goals and that all the aspects of sustainable development are being incorporated into the planning and management of development policies and programmes at the national, sectoral and regional levels. Furthermore, domestic resource mobilization and coordination among stakeholders, including the relevant ministries, private sector, civil society organizations and technical and financial partners, have been enhanced, as has the system for results monitoring and evaluation and risk management, as part of the update and implementation of the post-crisis national development plan.

The voluntary report recalls the lessons learned from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and outlines the Sustainable Development Goals process, including initial results, the efforts undertaken to overcome challenges and seize opportunities, the next steps and outlook for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and the expectations of Madagascar with respect to this inaugural voluntary national review at the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Implementation of the Millennium Development Goals: lessons for sustainable development

Madagascar is among the countries that had not met the Millennium Development Goals at the end of 2015. The goal of reducing poverty by half compared to 1990 and the other key goals and targets of the Millennium Development Goals were not achieved. This was attributable, in part, to a number of structural problems, and, above all, the effect of recurrent sociopolitical crises. As a result of poor governance, particularly during the period of crisis, little access to social services, the decrease in financing for development and low and non-inclusive growth, there was no improvement in the living conditions of the

population or the prospects for development, especially in relation to the Millennium Development Goal indicators. Consequently, Madagascar still has to address the unfinished Millennium Development Goal agenda. The lessons learned from their implementation will be useful for the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The country has faced considerable challenges in setting up an appropriate institutional framework that benefits from strong political support, mobilizing domestic resources and allocating them to sectors that drive poverty reduction and human development, particularly with respect to vulnerable populations, and implementing the monitoring and evaluation system; those challenges will have to be met in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Current implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Initial phase involving high-level political commitment, awareness-raising and capacity-building in 2014 and 2015

Well before the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals process, Madagascar had already planned to build institutional capacity and ensure better integration and national ownership of the agenda by including technical officers in Malagasy delegations to national, regional and international high-level strategic and political meetings held in connection with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and by participating in meetings of experts on the Sustainable Development Goal indicators and monitoring and evaluation system. The country's participation in political summits and meetings of experts at different levels helped to prepare the launch of the process for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Madagascar, especially through raising policymakers' awareness of the issues, and to strengthen institutional capacities for the 2030 Agenda. Such participation also helped to convey the country's views on the lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals in forums such as the United Nations General Assembly, the Organization of African Unity, the Southern African Development Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Commission, affirming the return of Madagascar to the international stage. Furthermore, the Government, United Nations system bodies, civil society organizations, the private sector and other technical and financial partners, and non-governmental organizations organized awareness days during the preparatory phase. These activities helped to strengthen political support for the Sustainable Development Goals in 2014 and 2015.

Launch of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2016

The process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals was launched in 2015 and Madagascar has adopted a road map for 2016 that takes account of the political commitment and lessons learned from the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals. A participatory and inclusive process for the 2030 Agenda was launched officially by means of a Council of Ministers communication on national consultations in July 2015.

Institutional framework

The institutional framework for the Sustainable Development Goals was established in July 2015 by a decree of the Office of the Prime Minister, which

created a Steering and Monitoring Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister and Head of Government, and a Technical Committee, chaired by the Minister of Economy and Planning. These bodies are made up of representatives of different development actors (ministries, the private sector, civil society organizations, academia, and technical and financial partners). Mobilizing the Steering and Monitoring Committee and the Technical Committee is in itself a logistical and financial challenge. These bodies are assisted by the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in the coordination of support from technical and financial partners.

The Sustainable Development Goals consultation and prioritization process

Following the verbal communication to the Government in June 2015, several events were organized in order to ensure effective communication on the Sustainable Development Goals and greater ownership.

International, national, regional and local consultations have enabled Madagascar to define its position on the Sustainable Development Goals with a view to the successful participation of national representatives in future discussions, dialogues and negotiation.

For example, a national consultation held in February 2015 on the country's aims within the framework of the International Conference on Population and Development led to a policy declaration by Madagascar.

1. National consultations

The Government held its first national consultative workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals from 24 to 26 August 2015 in Antananarivo. This important consultation made it possible to assess the linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals and the national development plan, to set the statistical indicators and the mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the Goals in the context of the situation in Madagascar, and to present the road map for the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Madagascar.

With regard to implementation of the road map for the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, a second national consultation on prioritizing the Goals and including them in development policies and strategies was held from 6 to 8 June 2016 under the leadership of the Government, through the Ministry of Economy and Planning, and with the support of the United Nations system (the UNDP office in Madagascar and the UNDP Regional Service Centre in Addis Ababa). On the agenda was a training seminar and capacity-building session for key development actors (ministerial departments, private sector organizations, civil society organizations, academia, youth representatives, non-governmental organizations and development agencies, and technical and financial partners) on Sustainable Development Goal prioritization tools (mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support strategy and round table on information access and technology) and their inclusion in development strategies and policies. The second consultation enabled experts from different sectoral ministries and representatives of other State institutions to assess the extent to which the Goals were incorporated in the national development plan, to prioritize those Goals that would have an accelerator effect in Madagascar and to focus on 47 targets during this preliminary phase. The establishment of priorities will allow financial, human and technical resources to be

better channelled towards a small number of Sustainable Development Goal targets that represent the minimum results expected with regard to the achievement of the Goals in Madagascar by 2030.

2. Regional and local consultations

At the regional and local levels, consultations were held in 4 of the 22 regions of Madagascar (Menabe, Itasy, Amoron'i Mania and Diana) during the first half of 2016. These consultations helped raise awareness among development actors of the challenges and implications of the Sustainable Development Goals for the development of regions and local communities, disseminate information on the content of the 2030 Agenda, in particular on the Sustainable Development Goal implementation process, and gather feedback from development actors on their priorities among the various targets.

The results of these consultations and of the sectoral and thematic consultations to be carried out in the future within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goal road map will complement this work on prioritization and will ensure that the Goals are taken into account when the national development plan and sectoral strategies are updated.

3. Resource mobilization

Drawing on the lessons learned from the obstacles to implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, the Government participated in the high-level meetings on financing for development, including in Addis Ababa in July 2015. Following these meetings and the sharing of experiences, the Government has continued its discussions and begun the reform of its public finance management, with the support of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other technical and financial partners. This programme is helping the country create the space it needs to dedicate more resources to its most pressing operational needs: education, health care and infrastructure. The Government is committed to continuing efforts to mobilize revenues by taking measures to discourage customs fraud and improve the management of public expenditure. This forms part of a strategy to mobilize public and private domestic and external resources. Thanks to the progress made by the Government in its reforms, a comprehensive agreement on IMF support has been reached in the form of a three-year extended credit facility arrangement. The Government will therefore be in the best possible position to prepare for the investors and donors conference to be held in October 2016, following the meeting of the Advisory Group on the Development of Madagascar that was held in Peru in November 2015 during the Annual Meetings of IMF and the World Bank Group, with the support of the World Bank and the United Nations.

The main objective of the conference is to mobilize financing that will complement domestic resource mobilization efforts in support of the sustainable development programme of Madagascar, including the national development plan for 2015-2019.

In this context, the Government is preparing a medium-term strategy for domestic resource mobilization.

Monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the Sustainable Development Goals

Statistics is a field which requires considerable development for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly at the level of the monitoring and evaluation mechanism for Sustainable Development Goal targets and indicators. To this end, the Ministry of Economy and Planning and the National Institute of Statistics have updated the national strategy for statistical development with the support of UNDP and the World Bank. This strategy defines the key statistics to be produced regularly in real time and in accordance with the required quality standards in order to ensure good planning, and, in particular, the effective monitoring of development results, including the priority targets of the Sustainable Development Goals at national, sectoral and regional levels.

The action plan in the national strategy for statistical development provides for the establishment of a strong, transparent and efficient national statistical system which is able to provide reliable, consistent, harmonized and up-to-date data in a timely manner. The aim is to have a monitoring and evaluation system for the Sustainable Development Goals which is integrated into the national system for monitoring and evaluation and into the budget programming process (medium-term budgetary framework), as well as to conduct investigations to establish the baseline for the Sustainable Development Goals based on prioritized, measurable indicators which are affordable for the country. These guidelines were confirmed by the outcome of the discussion on the National Institute of Statistics, organized by the Ministry of Economy and Planning.

The first lessons learned from the process for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Challenges

The national development policy "framework documents" coincide and are consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals. Nevertheless, the prerequisites and conditions of success are regarded as:

- Ownership and strong commitment of all bodies at different levels
- Greater intersectorality of ministries in the implementation of sectoral policies and strategies to realize the priority targets of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Strong leadership by the Office of the Prime Minister
- Continued efforts to mobilize resources
- Establishment of a bridge structure for implementation under the supervision of the Steering and Monitoring Committee and with the support of the Technical Committee.

Transforming the world by leaving no one behind also entails strengthening the technical and institutional capacities of the various stakeholders, and in particular those of the public sector in its role as facilitator, and the private sector in its role as an engine for development. In particular, this involves:

- Considering the private sector to be a primary actor in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The new development agenda requires business to produce wealth and consider both environmental and social aspects

- Facilitating public and private dialogue to improve the business environment and to restore mutual trust that ensures sustainable development
- Establishing and implementing an effective information system
- Training technicians from different sectors
- Continuing to improve the representativeness of civil society organizations
- Optimizing flows of funding towards targeted development assistance which is adapted to the context and needs of the country with regard to poverty eradication and the reduction of inequalities, the creation of employment for young people and women, access to health and education services, and environmental protection.

Opportunities and good practices

Improving the efficiency of official development assistance: with the agreement in principle between the Malagasy authorities and technical and financial partners, including IMF, on a programme of inclusive growth and sustainable development within the framework of the national development plan, there are real prospects for making progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. It is expected that there will be better stimulation of private investment and improved prospects for the mobilization of domestic resources and coordination of support from technical and financial partners. Improving aid effectiveness is one of the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 17 and constitutes good practice for at least two reasons: (a) more effective cooperation contributes to a revitalized global partnership; and (b) systematic monitoring and review at all levels is essential to strengthening transparency, accountability and results on the ground.

The alignment of the medium-term budgetary framework with the national development plan is under way. From 2017, the budget will be aligned with the plan and the effort to prioritize national policies and strategies on Sustainable Development Goal targets in the medium-term budgetary framework would be a logical continuation of that process.

However, efforts are still needed to improve the coordination and harmonization of development assistance in Madagascar.

Outlook

The results of the consultations held by the Government at the national, sectoral and regional levels, with the support of technical and financial partners, will enable the Government to update its road map for the Sustainable Development Goals in July 2016 and ensure the proper inclusion of priority targets.

Thematic and sectoral consultations will be held from July 2016 with a view to further refining and analysing the preliminary results of prioritization with sectoral experts for validation by sectoral ministries and the Government of Madagascar. The aim is to have a set of priority Sustainable Development Goal targets that are adopted at the highest political level in Madagascar and aligned with both the national development plan and the national strategy for statistical development, thus ensuring the country's strong political commitment to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Expectations regarding the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development

During its voluntary national review, Madagascar wishes to share the results of the process for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in its territory and benefit from the experience and recommendations of other countries and the support of the United Nations system in order to take the next steps in implementing the country's road map for the Sustainable Development Goals and its national development plan.

Priority areas in which Madagascar is likely to need support in terms of finance, capacity-building, technology and partnerships, presented in the form of priority actions and then in the form of questions.

Expanding and strengthening advocacy for the inclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals in the political agenda of central and regional government over a period of time that goes beyond the current political mandate

Ownership and alignment are being developed through prolonged inclusive communication to mobilize all stakeholders in the country. Regional-level activities should be supported financially and methodologically. This raises two questions:

- How can Madagascar develop leadership that is shared across ministerial departments, Government, the private sector, civil society organizations and political actors?
- How can a communication plan to ensure inclusiveness be developed, without becoming a sterile series of workshops with no real impact on peoples' lives?

Financing investment plans

At the national level, an investors and donors conference is being prepared to finance priority investment programmes contained in the national development plan. At the international level, Madagascar wishes to see the definitive establishment of a global forum to bridge the infrastructure gap. This raises two questions:

- How can international cooperation in tax matters be developed to strengthen domestic resources?
- How can respect for national and international partnerships be ensured?

Improving the institutional framework for better sustainable development governance

This mechanism must be complemented by a strong bridge structure or institution, with the expertise and authority to call to account development actors that are not respecting the rules in place. This raises the following questions:

- How can the effectiveness and efficiency of the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda be improved by strengthening the sustainable development governance system?
- What are ways to strengthen the capacities of the National Institute of Statistics and other statistical data producers to ensure the effective monitoring and evaluation of sustainable development indicators?

Good practices from other countries

Madagascar is requesting information on good practices from other countries on the following issues:

- How can the coordination and harmonization of the procedures used by our technical and financial partners be improved?
- How can the different regional sustainable development plans such as those developed by the Indian Ocean Commission, the International Organization of la Francophonie and other regional organizations be integrated?
- How can the implementation of cross-cutting measures in support of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals be ensured?

Conclusions

Madagascar has just begun the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Nevertheless, an analysis of progress leads to the following conclusions.

Home to several global biodiversity hotspots, Madagascar has made notable progress despite not having achieved Millennium Development Goal 7. Support for the progress made must be continued to ensure that the exploitation of natural resources provides a true basis for sustainable and durable development.

It is recognized in the general State policy and the national development plan that social cohesion and political stability cannot be achieved without reducing inequality and poverty. The continued efforts to take ownership of the plan and the Sustainable Development Goals contribute to reducing inequality and should be supported by the international community.

Madagascar is lagging behind in addressing poverty and malnutrition. The specific needs of Madagascar should be urgently reviewed by prioritizing poverty reduction measures, in particular in the agriculture and environment sectors.

As in the least developed countries, "relative" performance[5] is measured in terms of human capital. The Millennium Development Goals made it possible to bring the goals within reach.[6] This situation calls for a renewed emphasis on support for priority sectors: health[7] and education.[8]

A strong institution is needed that is capable of channelling development efforts in the direction of the Sustainable Development Goals and turning policies into coherent, harmonized action that has a tangible effect on household living conditions.

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[5] Compared to developing countries. Matthieu Boussichas and Vincent Nossek, "*Etat des lieux statistique des objectifs du développement durable dans les pays les moins avancés et les autres pays vulnérables*", Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international, Working document No. 114 (October 2014), p. 3.

[6] Especially if trends before the political crisis of 2009 are taken into account.

[7] Especially with regard to infant and child mortality (continual downward trend), vaccination of infants against measles (significant improvement in vaccination coverage), maternal mortality, childbirth conditions and antenatal care coverage, *Rapport national de suivi des objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement*, 2007, Madagascar, pp. 42 and 44.

[8] Positive developments in primary school access, ibid., p. 26.

The international community and the private sector must be mobilized and make sustained efforts to assist Madagascar in meeting current and future challenges and in making tangible progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular with regard to peacebuilding and political stability, respect for human rights and the rule of law, eradicating extreme poverty and reducing inequality, job creation for youth and women, access to health and education services and protecting the environment.

Mexico

[Original: Spanish]

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a State commitment for Mexico, which is successfully transitioning from its tracking of the Millennium Development Goals to that of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Office of the President of the Republic will maintain leadership in this matter. We consider that the strategy for achieving the 2030 Agenda will develop further over time. However, we are facing various challenges such as, for example, achieving satisfactory strategic coordination of the agencies responsible for the various aspects of the Agenda; identifying the resources required for different aspects of the Agenda and allocating a specific budget in that regard; involving the various social actors in the strategy for implementing the Agenda; achieving an impact at all levels of government; building successful cooperation to ensure that no one is left behind; and drawing up an effective communication plan.

Transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals

Since the end of 2015, we have laid the foundations for transforming the Specialized Technical Committee of the Millennium Development Goals Information System into a system that will allow adequate measurement of the Sustainable Development Goals by means of the new indicators established under the 2030 Agenda.

The Specialized Technical Committee of the Millennium Development Goals Information System began to operate in 2010, under the leadership of the Office of the President of the Republic, the National Statistics, Geography and Information Technology Institute (INEGI) and the National Population Council (CONAPO), with representatives from 15 government agencies.

On 5 February 2016, we held the first meeting of the new Specialized Technical Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals, headed by the same institutions that had directed the Specialized Technical Committee of the Millennium Development Goals Information System. In the new Committee, we included representatives of another 8 government agencies in addition to the 15 that had been part of the previous one.

The Specialized Technical Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals will be responsible for tracking the goals, targets and indicators proposed in the 2030 Agenda. After consultation with each of the government agencies represented in the Committee, we launched a system whereby we allocated each of the Agenda indicators to them in order for them to assign the corresponding tracking procedures. We are still in the process of determining the value of each indicator

and the base line for measuring it. Once we have this information, we will move to the stage of defining the national indicators; various actors, including civil society, academia and the private sector will be involved in that process through working groups that will meet in mid-2016.

Institutional agreements and integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in existing platforms

One of the most important challenges of the 2030 Agenda is to establish clear links and coordination mechanisms between the various agencies responsible for implementing the public policies that will lead to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals. For that reason, and bearing in mind the cross-cutting and multidimensional nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (which encompasses social, economic and environmental aspects), we identified the existing government structures able to perform this function.

Within the Office of the President of the Republic, there are technical offices aligned with the goals established in the national development plan for 2014-2018, many of which are similar to those of the 2030 Agenda. There are also various interministerial commissions for different issues encompassing the Sustainable Development Goals. For example, the Interministerial Commission for Social Development, which began to operate in 2004, is currently aligning its work with the 2030 Agenda.

As well as recognizing the cross-cutting nature of the Agenda, in coming months we will be aligning the work of the existing interministerial offices and commissions with each of the new goals, targets and indicators. We might also consider establishing a specific commission responsible for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Good practices identified by Mexico

Leadership on the issue from the Office of the President of the Republic: We consider that the strategy for achieving the 2030 Agenda should be under the leadership of the Office of the President of the Republic. Our experience of implementing the Millennium Development Goals clearly showed that the likelihood of successfully achieving the Agenda will be greater if we adopt it as a State commitment at the highest level.

Establishment of an information technology platform built by INEGI: We developed an information technology tool to monitor implementation of the Millennium Development Goals: www.objetivosdedesarrollodelmilenio.org.mx. The platform was implemented by the Institute, which is an autonomous body. We are currently working on a new cutting-edge platform that includes all information related to the Sustainable Development Goals, and offers the ability to conduct searches and disaggregate data by gender, age, geographical location and education, among other factors.

Inclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals in official communications: with a view to raising awareness of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and entrenching it in society, we have made efforts to include information on those issues in the activities and statements of the most senior officials. The aim is to communicate the new Agenda and ensure that it has an impact not only at the

federal level but also at the state and municipal levels. We will also make efforts to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals in the new state governments that will soon be coming to office.

Lessons learned

Feasibility of ensuring the continuation and continued significance of the strategy. Mexico already has interministerial offices and commissions in place working on issues such as climate change and social development, which were established under previous Governments. Therefore, one of the lessons that have been learned during the development of the new implementation strategy is that the interministerial offices and commissions linked to the Sustainable Development Goals are highly likely to outlast the current Government. Mexico will also encourage the taking of ownership of the themes of the Agenda, create an implementation network that links actors in ways that are not necessarily hierarchical and ensure that actors work in a cross-cutting manner. As familiarity with the Sustainable Development Goals increases, there will greater pressure at the national and international levels for public policies to remain focused on the implementation of the Goals.

Challenges

Ensuring the availability and appropriate allocation of budgetary resources for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Mexico is conscious of the need to examine the situation of the national budget with regard to resources allocated to issues covered in the 2030 Agenda. Means must be found to ensure that the necessary resources are reserved for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and to link existing resources to the implementation of the various elements of the Agenda, as necessary, in line with the responsibilities of the different government bodies. Legislators will be able to provide support in that process.

Participation of different actors. Clear mechanisms must also be established to facilitate the participation of the various actors involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular civil society, although the private sector, members of parliament and local governments are also key actors. The most effective way of creating public-private partnerships that involve the sharing of statistical data and the provision of resources beyond those made available by the Government must be found in order to bring about the achievement of the targets.

Achievement of the agenda at the federal and local levels. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda is an effort that must be carried out at all levels, taking into account the various dimensions of sustainable development and including action at the state and municipal levels. Mexico is considering involving all of the country's governors and their administrations in the process, including those whose mandates have not yet begun, to ensure that the Sustainable Development Goal perspective is taken into account in their work plans from the commencement of their terms.

Cooperation at the regional and global levels. The principle of leaving no one behind must be maintained through the coming years, taking into account the inequalities that exist between countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Mexico must increase its efforts in that area under the leadership of the Mexican

Agency for International Development Cooperation, with the support of international bodies such as the United Nations Development Programme and drawing on the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, including the establishment of regional indicators. Mexico also participates in the various governance bodies dealing with issues of international cooperation for development that will coordinate the regional and global efforts.

The need to establish shared, widely used language. Another challenge will be to draw up an effective national communication plan to ensure that all actors are aware of the actions the Government is taking to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. That will make it possible to create a sense of ownership and use common language to discuss what needs to be done at all levels of government.

Montenegro

[Original: English]

The Government of Montenegro adopted the first national strategy for sustainable development in April 2007, together with a corresponding action plan for the period 2007-2012. Since then, the Government has adopted five annual progress reports on the implementation of the strategy. The national strategy was a step towards making concrete the constitutional commitment of Montenegro to be an ecological State. While drafting the strategy, the Government relied on the guidelines and goals set in national strategic documents of that time, as well as on the Mediterranean Strategy of Sustainable Development and obligations arising from Agenda 21, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Since its adoption, the action plan of the national strategy for sustainable development, including a number of goals, measures and related indicators, has been revised during the evaluation process. It was done in accordance with findings of the annual progress reports on the implementation of the strategy and progress that was achieved in the implementation of other relevant programmes and strategic documents during the period. The progress reports were subject to consideration by the National Council for Sustainable Development, with the aim of providing recommendations on the basis of which the Government of Montenegro continued to guide the implementation phase of the strategy. The results of its implementation were reported to the Commission on Sustainable Development with the aim of not only reporting on progress made but also of adjusting the national process to the relevant recommendations of the Commission.

Being aware of the complexity of the challenges the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development has set before the national authorities, Montenegro recognizes that the most valuable example of good practices that it may share is the experience gained in creating methodological concepts and establishing related processes for the preparation of a new national strategy until 2030 that would place the Sustainable Development Goals and indicators for sustainable development at the centre of the national response it creates.

The fourth progress report on the implementation of the 2007 national strategy for sustainable development, which was published in parallel with the finalization of the participation of Montenegro in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable

Development, held in Rio in 2012, and the fifth progress report on the implementation of the 2007 strategy, published in 2013, guided the planning process for reviewing the strategy. The monitoring and evaluation results indicated that respectable progress had been achieved: the environmental pillar score was 47 per cent; social development was 65 per cent; and the economic development pillar score was 49 per cent, respectively. On average, about 53 per cent of the 236 planned measures from the action plan of the 2007 strategy had been realized by 2013. Bearing that implementation score in mind, as well as other considerations — the time frame for implementation of the action plan of the 2007 strategy expired in 2012; many changes had taken place in Montenegrin society in the meantime, particularly in terms of reforms related to the process of the accession of Montenegro to the European Union; and a new global sustainable development road map was created by the outcome document of the Conference, entitled "The future we want" — a decision was made to launch the revision of the national strategy for sustainable development in July 2013, the year after the Conference.

The baseline assessment, as the starting point, focused on the trends that represented a framework for preparation of the revised strategy. That document was the subject of public consultations with a broad spectrum of relevant stakeholders. On the basis of the comments given and the analytical work of the expert team, a broader basis, the platform for development of the national strategy for sustainable development 2015-2020, was prepared. The platform provided an analysis of the existing conditions and directions for completion of the revised strategy. In parallel in 2015, supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Montenegro, a team of consultants prepared the *National Human Development Report — Montenegro: Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Human Development — 2014*, taking into account the vision of the Montenegrin Government to move towards a resource-efficient economy and fulfil Montenegro's promise as an ecological State. Both documents were presented to experts and the interested public. Taking into account opinions and suggestions given during the participatory process, the expert team and the Ministry of Tourism and Sustainable Development embarked on the process of amending the platform and developing a methodological approach for communicating the results of the expert team to the public. Additional expert analyses that were not originally planned were also conducted and the initially anticipated time frame set for revision of the strategy was redefined. However, the most relevant reason for modification of the original plan for revision of the strategy was the outcome of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals and the related intergovernmental negotiation process under the auspices of the United Nations on sustainable development after 2015 and on financing for sustainable development. That was followed by the decision of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Integrated Coastal Zone Management to change the original task of revising the 2007 strategy to the task of developing a new strategy after 2015, and after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development in September 2015 to extend the new strategy until 2030. It resulted in a complete change of structure and content for the new strategy as well as in the composition of the expert team in order to respond to the requirements of the 2030 Agenda. Instead of completing the new strategy in 2014, the adoption of a new strategy was postponed until June 2016.

Additional expert analyses were carried out, including: (a) an ecological footprint analysis for Montenegro; (b) the 2014 *National Human Development Report* and the related introduction of the concepts of domestic material consumption and resource productivity; (c) transposition of the recommendations of the preferred scenario four of the *National Human Development Report* regarding domestic material consumption and resource productivity to sectoral policies for the purpose of developing the strategy; (d) development of spatial development indicators following a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) methodology that was tested in six coastal municipalities while developing the national strategy on integrated coastal zone management; (e) the *National Human Development Report — Informal Work: from Challenges to Solutions — 2016*; and (f) analysis of the national institutional and legislative framework for sustainable development. The analyses provided specific guidelines for resolving the problems of non-sustainable trends in national development that were identified through baseline assessment and related analysis of problems and causes, including through Driving forces-Pressures-State-Impact-Responses framework analysis, and for responding to the challenges of the 2030 Agenda that were introduced into the national policy for sustainable development. Such prepared analyses resulted also in the development of a set of synthetic indicators of sustainable development which were introduced owing to the need to perform complete and comprehensive monitoring of the sustainability of national development. In addition, inputs for the new strategy were based on the critical assessment of all relevant national strategic development documents, such as actual sectoral strategies (energy, industry, transport and agriculture, for example), the national programme for integration into the European Union, "Montenegro development directions 2015-2018", the programme of economic reforms and the agenda for competitiveness 2020, in respect of the results of the implementation of the 2007 strategy and the requirements of the 2030 Agenda.

The Government of Montenegro adopted the draft of the national strategy for sustainable development until 2030 at its session held on 28 December 2015. After three-month public consultations on the draft of the strategy until 2030, it is expected to be adopted by the Government by June 2016. Guided by national needs that were identified with reference to the analysis of the deficiencies in national development and needs in responding to the challenges that have been introduced by the 2030 Agenda, the central place in the new strategy is given to determination of the strategic goals and measures to define answers on how to achieve sustainable management of four groups of national resources: human capital, social capital and values, natural capital and economic capital, as well as on how to achieve good governance and sustainable financing for the sustainable development of Montenegro during the period until 2030.

The most complex element of the methodological approach was related to the transposition of the requirements of the 2030 Agenda, with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets and of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, with its recommendations for integrating financing sustainable development into the strategy's strategic goals and measures. Statistically, 70 per cent of the Goals related to human capital are recognized through measures and submeasures comprising the strategy, as well as 82 per cent of the Goals related to social capital, 79 per cent of the Goals related to natural capital, 82 per cent of the Goals related to economic resources, 74 per cent of the Goals related to financing for sustainable development

and 39 per cent of the Goals related to management for sustainable development. On average, about 78 per cent of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 indicators are carried over into the new national strategy for sustainable development until 2030.

Another valuable example of good practices that Montenegro may share is its experience with the transposition of a recently proposed list of 241 indicators for the global monitoring of sustainable development, which was identified by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, into the national strategy for sustainable development until 2030 as the main tool for planning future monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the strategy. The assessment of the needs related to the transposition of the list of indicators confirmed that Montenegro currently monitors only 28 indicators (12 per cent); for 33 indicators there are alternatives according to content and they are monitored in Montenegro (33 per cent); while 37 indicators can begin to track from 2018 (15 per cent). In total, it will be possible to monitor 98 indicators in Montenegro by 2018 (41 per cent of the total number of indicators, including alternatives). For the remaining 143 indicators from the list of indicators of sustainable development (59 per cent of indicators), their introduction in Montenegro is not planned at the moment, and for them the strategy will define a plan for introduction into the national system in the course of the implementation of the strategy until 2030. In addition, there are 31 indicators that are monitored by various international organizations and include Montenegro, whose monitoring and analysis can be a function of monitoring the progress of the overall implementation of the national strategy for the development of statistics in Montenegro (13 per cent compared to the number of Sustainable Development Goal indicators). If the additional indicators are added to total number of indicators to be monitored in Montenegro for 2018 (98 plus 31), there are 129 indicators that may be monitored both nationally and internationally (54 per cent).

Having in mind all of the information mentioned above, the present voluntary Montenegrin national review presents the process of drafting the new national strategy for sustainable development until 2030 for the period from 2013 until the present, and the related final phase of public consultations that were launched in 2016 while submitting the proposal of the new strategy for formal adoption by the Government of Montenegro. Hence it also provides information on lessons learned while recognizing national needs and identifying challenges related to transposition of the 2030 Agenda into national policy, especially those related to the following issues:

- Enabling intersectoral consultations and public hearings on nationalization of the Sustainable Development Goals through the process of drafting the new national sustainable development strategy of Montenegro until 2030
- Enabling intersectoral consultations on establishing a national system for regular monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the new strategy, which also presents the monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and related indicators
- Enabling intersectoral consultations on the transformation and strengthening of the present governance system for sustainable development

Since Montenegro is a pioneer in the creation of the national self-standing process that links national implementation with implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, for us it is especially important that the agenda of the forthcoming session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development give other countries the opportunity to share experiences regarding their respective national processes, in particular in respect of their experiences with enhancement of national governance for sustainable development and plans to provide sustainable financing of sustainable development policy, and to create the statistical systems to support regular evaluation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda by applying the Sustainable Development Goals and indicators for sustainable development. Equally important is the presentation of an integrated platform to support that national endeavour during the period until 2030.

The present voluntary Montenegrin national review also outlines the areas in which Montenegro as a matter of priority would need support in terms of finance, capacity-building, technology and partnerships, especially with regard to the following issues:

- How to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of national implementation of the 2030 Agenda through enhancing the governance system for sustainable development and evaluation and reporting on the implementation of national strategy for sustainable development until 2030? How to strengthen the capacities of the Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT) and other producers of statistical data so as to effectively monitor the indicators for sustainable development?
- How to mobilize external sources to finance the sustainable development of Montenegro and to increase the share of the allocations related to sustainable development in total national budgeting/gross domestic product? How to enforce national partnerships and diversify public and private sources of financing of relevance for sustainable development?
- How to enforce the regulatory impact assessment of national processes with regard to implementation of the national strategy for sustainable development until 2030? How to enforce implementation of strategy measures and related projects on the preservation of natural capital and the greening of the Montenegrin economy?

Morocco

[Original: French]

Introduction

This voluntary national review is the result of national consultations held in Rabat from 3 to 5 May 2016, during which several ministerial departments and relevant actors entered into a national debate on national strategies and public development policies. These consultations are an instrument for national ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The review focuses on two areas, namely the main areas of action for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the enhanced integration of the Sustainable Development Goals into national sustainable development policies.

Contextualization

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, which are universal, integrated, interconnected and indivisible, balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

The Sustainable Development Goals will play an important role in development policies in Morocco over the next 15 years.

Morocco has honoured its commitments with respect to the Millennium Development Goals, having achieved almost all of them.

National consultations on the post-2015 outlook were carried out at the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2013 and 2014.

National consultation to contextualize the 2030 Agenda

The aim of the national consultation was to identify and formulate national priorities under the Sustainable Development Goals in order to adapt them to the national context.

The consultation took a participatory approach involving not only ministerial departments and public agencies, but also local governments, civil society and the United Nations system.

It reflected a high-level commitment, by the Government and the Parliament, to the involvement of Morocco in the strategy for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Panel discussions were held on the four components of the 2030 Agenda: people, planet, peace and partnership. Presentations were made by United Nations agencies (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), UNDP and UNESCO). One day was dedicated to civil society and local government representatives. A parallel session was organized for children, in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The national consultation revealed that sectoral strategies in Morocco already include many of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

Pillars for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Pillar 1: broadening ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals

- Consultation and involvement of all stakeholders (Government, citizens, civil society and private sector) in defining national priorities and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Decentralization of public policies on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Capacity-building for staff of government entities and local authorities for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Pillar 2: alignment of the Sustainable Development Goals with national priorities

In Morocco, the Sustainable Development Goals are being implemented in the economic and societal frame of reference enshrined in the 2011 Constitution and in the new context of advanced regionalization and of the reforms undertaken since 2000, which are based on the democratic administration of public policy.

National development strategies will need to be analysed with a view to strategically aligning the Sustainable Development Goals with these strategies so as to reflect national priorities.

Sustainability will need to be embedded in the national economic model, and interconnections and synergies will need to be highlighted.

Pillar 3: management of public policy coordination

- Adoption of a sectoral approach that promotes integration and coherence between sectoral development policies.
- The Sustainable Development Goals emphasize multidimensional approaches and multi-stakeholder partnerships that require the following actions: consolidation of the type of development chosen long ago by Morocco and enhancement of coherence and convergence; strengthening of coordination mechanisms between different authorities; and efforts to capitalize on the gains made through the planning and forecasting tools developed by the High Commission for Planning.

Pillar 4: the statistical information system

The indicators are critical for monitoring progress towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The United Nations Statistical Commission has developed 229 indicators for this purpose.

The national statistical system is able to provide highly relevant indicators.

The indicators should be presented in a way that is simple enough to be understood by citizens and used by the media.

The issue of international comparability should be taken into account in the development of indicators.

Pillar 5: monitoring and evaluation of progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

The lack of systematic monitoring of public policies can affect their credibility.

Monitoring and evaluation could prevent or correct the effects of financial or institutional constraints that have not been sufficiently understood.

The goal is to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation mechanism established for the Millennium Development Goals by improving the coherence and convergence of public policies.

It is vital to have a technical modelling tool for studying the coherence of public policies and their development over the period until 2030.

Pillar 6: funding

Funding is an important aspect of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The paradigm based exclusively on official development assistance has shown its limits, given that the aid disbursed so far will not cover the financing requirements of the Sustainable Development Goals, and there is a need to be open to other sources such as the private sector, innovative financing and public-private partnerships.

Morocco will build on its successful experiences with public-private partnerships used in the context of the national human development initiative and the mobilization of domestic and foreign resources.

Next steps will be:

- Work to refine the national consultation process, including in terms of strengthening the dialogue with all stakeholders.
- An assessment, which will be conducted in two years, followed by periodic reports on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Norway

[Original: English]

The 2030 Agenda: a road map for national action and global partnership

Norway regards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals as a transformative global road map for our national and international efforts aimed at eradicating extreme poverty while protecting planetary boundaries and promoting prosperity, peace and justice. It is a universal agenda, to which all countries and all relevant stakeholders can and must contribute. With the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, adopted at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the Paris Agreement on climate change in place, the Sustainable Development Goals will be a powerful driver for national policy action, international cooperation and collaborative partnerships.

Norway will follow up on the 2030 Agenda, nationally and internationally and in cooperation with other Member States. The process of preparing Norway's initial voluntary national review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development has in itself contributed to greater political and public awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals in Norway. The Government has already taken important steps to identify challenges and integrate Sustainable Development Goal reporting into the annual budget documents. The Prime Minister is also engaged internationally, as Co-Chair, with the President of Ghana, of the Secretary-General's Sustainable Development Goal advocacy group. The present review starts with a summary of the key features of Norway's initial national follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. Details of national and international follow-up are covered in the policy section, under "Goals and targets". The summary highlights policies,

partnerships and practices that Norway believes could be of particular interest to the wider United Nations membership and stakeholders.

Challenges at the national level

United Nations reports and various international indexes show that Norway ranks high in terms of global implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, it is evident that implementing the 2030 Agenda will be demanding for Norway, too. The Government has identified a number of targets that pose particular challenges for domestic follow-up in Norway. Those challenges relate to several of the Sustainable Development Goals and all three dimensions of sustainable development — social, economic, and environmental. Among the targets that are likely to remain the focus of political attention and policy development are those relating to sustainable consumption and production, health and education, equality, employment and migration. The Government is giving priority to ensuring quality education and employment, especially for young people and those at risk of marginalization. This is an important contribution to realizing the 2030 Agenda vision of leaving no one behind. Challenges that have been identified at the national level include the following:

- Reducing non-communicable diseases and promoting mental health
- Increasing high-school completion rates
- Eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls
- Reducing the proportion of young people not in employment, education or training
- Ensuring sustainable infrastructure
- Sustaining income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average
- Improving urban air quality
- Halving food waste and reducing waste generation
- Reducing the impact of invasive alien species
- Reducing all forms of violence and related death rates and combating organized crime.

As for the crucial area of climate change, national follow-up of the Paris Agreement will constitute the main basis for action to fulfil Sustainable Development Goal 13. Norway is committed to reducing emissions by at least 40 per cent by 2030, compared with the 1990 level. Norway is engaged in a dialogue on joint fulfilment of its 2030 commitment, together with the European Union.

National participation and ownership

Norway regards participatory, inclusive and representative decision-making as fundamental for a well-functioning society. Participation is vital for ensuring the national ownership necessary for effective and transparent follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals.

At present, 40 per cent of the members of the Storting (Norwegian parliament) are women. The Storting has debated the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals several times, most recently in November 2015. The Storting's approval of the annual State and national budget, which are key political documents in the Norwegian democratic system, is required to give the Government the mandate it needs to carry out its policies. Following the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, the Government developed a plan for national follow-up to the Goals in Norway, which is linked to the budget process. Responsibility for each of the 17 Goals is given to a coordinating ministry, which is to consult with other ministries involved in the follow-up of various targets under the goal concerned. Each ministry is to report on the status of follow-up for its respective goal(s) in its budget proposal. The Ministry of Finance will then sum up the main points in the national budget white paper, which is presented to the Storting annually, along with the State budget. This ensures annual reporting on the follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals to the Storting, in a well-established process.

The indigenous peoples' assembly, the Sámediggi (Sami Parliament), will be involved through dialogue with the line ministries and formal consultation mechanisms. The Government will also make use of existing mechanisms for cooperation with local and regional authorities. Dialogue and partnerships with stakeholders, including civil society, the business sector and academia is an enduring feature of the Norwegian political and democratic system in all relevant policy areas. The Government will continue to benefit from consultations with stakeholders in the Sustainable Development Goal follow-up process. Engagement with the private sector and business will be important, including in achieving scaled-up implementation and financing with a view to realizing the Goals at global level. As far as spreading knowledge about the Goals is concerned, the recommendation by the Ministry of Education to include the Goals as part of the curriculum in schools is valuable.

A commitment to international solidarity to eradicate poverty and protect planetary boundaries

Norway has a long tradition of solidarity with developing and vulnerable countries, including through its provision of support for the United Nations and fulfilment of the target to allocate at least 0.7 per cent of gross national income (GNI) to official development assistance (ODA). The commitment to work for poverty eradication and provide ODA, currently at around 1 per cent of Norway's GNI, continues to enjoy broad political and popular support. Norway's international follow-up of the Sustainable Development Goals and the global partnership in Goal 17 are covered in the present review.

Effective implementation also requires financing in the form of domestic resource mobilization and tax collection, as well as business and private sector investments. Norway will continue to promote technology and knowledge transfer; open trade and market access; and capacity-building to ensure effective and accountable governance institutions and respect for the rule of law and human rights.

Gender equality and rights for women and girls, access to education and health for all and a human rights-based approach are crucial factors for reducing extreme

poverty and creating equal opportunities for all, including people with disabilities, indigenous peoples and marginalized groups. Such policies are essential if we are to "leave no one behind" in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Examples of Norwegian priorities and partnerships in these areas include:

- Increasing official development assistance for education, with a special focus on girls' education, education in emergencies and quality of education
- Maintaining a high level of investments in global health, in particular efforts to improve maternal health and reduce child mortality
- Working in partnerships, including with the private sector; Every Woman Every Child; the vaccine alliance, Gavi; and the Global Partnership for Education
- Engaging in partnerships under the United Nations, World Bank and other organizations to strengthen women's rights and gender equality in economic, social and political life, which is crucial for economic development and growth
- Sustainable natural resource management and climate change mitigation and adaptation are priority areas for Norway. Integrating climate and environment concerns into all our Sustainable Development Goal follow-up efforts is key to achieving lasting sustainable development results

Addressing the responsible use and protection of oceans and marine environments is particularly pressing. This is important for Norway and other coastal States, whose livelihoods and welfare depend on the sea. Clean oceans and seas are a global common good and are crucially linked to the efforts to address climate change and reduce carbon dioxide emissions through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement. Healthy oceans are key to the "blue economy". Fisheries are a growing source of global nutrition and food security, while shipping trade routes are vital for global trade and hence for economic growth. Norway has established integrated ecosystem-based management plans for its sea areas. In May 2016, the Storting adopted a Norwegian action plan for biodiversity, aimed at achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and debated a new white paper on securing an efficient and climate-friendly energy supply. Norway will continue to share its experience and assist developing countries' efforts to manage and protect marine and other natural resources, including fisheries, forests and energy. The objective must be to promote national welfare as well as global common goods. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other agreements to ensure well-regulated and responsible marine resource management are of fundamental importance in this regard. Examples of Norwegian priorities and partnerships in these areas include:

- Working with Latin American, African, and Asian partners in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries
- Supporting climate financing for vulnerable nations, including least developed countries and small island developing States, through multilateral mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund, to which Norway is a major donor

- Support for promoting renewable energy in African and Asian countries, and sharing experience in the management of petroleum resources, a sector in which Norway is a major exporter
- Reducing illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as part of sustainable management of fish stocks, including cooperation with the Russian Federation in the Barents Sea
- Stepping up efforts to reduce marine plastic litter and microplastics, including through an initiative taken at the United Nations Environment Assembly, and working with the United States of America and others to make the "Our ocean" process a success.

Integrating Sustainable Development Goal 16, connecting peace and poverty

The governance targets embedded in Sustainable Development Goal 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions represent an important innovation and pillar of the 2030 Agenda, and they were a key topic in the debate on the Sustainable Development Goals in the Storting in November 2015. Goal 16 is cross cutting and helps to integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions with stability and security issues through its focus on the root causes of poverty, hunger and migration. Peace, justice and freedoms are key elements. In 2015, a white paper on human rights and another on global security challenges provided important policy guidance in that regard. Norway will continue to support peace, conflict prevention and reconciliation efforts — which we see as a crucial foreign policy supplement to humanitarian and development assistance — including in situations of fragility and vulnerability. Examples of Norway's international engagement include the following:

- Chair of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians; facilitator, together with Cuba, in the Colombian peace process; cooperation with the African Union in support of African peacekeeping and capacity-building
- Support to international governance and institution-building to promote transparency and accountability, counteract corruption and capital flight, and consolidate the rule of law
- Work with multilateral, regional and bilateral partners to promote democracy and relevant human rights norms and standards, including by supporting the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and engaging in the Council of Europe.

Philippines

[Original: English]

Building on the lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals experience, the Government of the Philippines is committed to the bigger challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals, which integrate the social, economic and environmental agenda. The review highlights the initiatives of the Government and other stakeholders to provide the policy and enabling environment for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly with regard to securing the buy-in from policymakers and stakeholders, incorporating the

Sustainable Development Goals into the national framework, improving indicators and data and developing institutional mechanisms.

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, the Philippine Government and its partners have conducted communications and advocacy efforts to build awareness and engage stakeholders in the new agenda. The technical secretariat of the National Economic and Development Authority, for its part, has conducted briefings and orientations for its inter-agency committees, including Cabinet-level committees of the Authority's Board, and at other multisectoral and multi-stakeholder forums. Since the initial year of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals coincides with a new administration in the country, the more effective and persuasive tool for advocacy for the Goals is the ongoing process of integrating the Sustainable Development Goals simultaneously into the long-term vision and goals (Ambisyon Natin 2040) and the national, sectoral and subnational plans and frameworks. This involves a broader network of players and more opportunities to engage in the Sustainable Development Goal discourse vis-à-vis national priorities. Innovative strategies such as identifying new Sustainable Development Goal champions among the new officials or from the business or private sectors may be considered in the process.

Civil society organizations have also provided significant support to the Sustainable Development Goal campaign. One organization held a workshop on the rights of the child and the Sustainable Development Goals, at which a mix of civil society organizations and government participants used the framework of the Goals to identify advocacy opportunities to influence decision-makers in addressing priority issues on child protection. Still another held a voters education forum on food and nutrition security, which identified food and nutrition security policy proposals for prioritization in the legislative agenda of the next Congress. The United Nations Development Programme in the Philippines also initiated an activity which resulted in civil society organizations developing their work plan with respect to the Sustainable Development Goals.

The country shares its good practices in mapping out Sustainable Development Goal indicators for national monitoring. The assessment and prioritization of the global indicators based on the national context have undergone a participatory and iterative process, jointly led by the national planning and statistics agencies. A policy statement was recently issued enjoining government agencies to provide data support to monitor the country's performance with respect to the Goals and specifying the responsibilities of statistics agencies. Through a series of technical workshops, the indicators have been assessed on the basis of, inter alia, the regularity of data generation and the availability of disaggregated data. The resulting list of indicators provides timely inputs into the ongoing preparation of the successor medium-term development plan. A chapter on the Sustainable Development Goals has been added to the updated Philippine Statistical Development Program 2011-2017 to ensure government support in the generation of data. Moreover, the Government plans to strengthen mechanisms for monitoring and reporting through a Sustainable Development Goal web page, development of the Sustainable Development Goal Watch, which will monitor the relevant and available indicators, and identification of a Sustainable Development Goal focal point from each data source agency to facilitate coordination and data gathering of the indicators, among others.

Issues and concerns such as unavailability of data, lack of disaggregated data, lack of common definition of terms, overlaps of indicators across the Sustainable Development Goals and lack of measurement methods for some indicators were raised. They apply to more than half the total number of indicators, with most of them falling under Goals 12 (sustainable consumption and production patterns), 14 (conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development), 6 (water and sanitation) and 10 (reduce inequality).

A number of the Sustainable Development Goals do not require the Government to deliver public services, but rather to develop and enforce the necessary policy and regulatory framework. Given the interrelatedness of the Goals and targets, the Government is considering creating a high-level inter-agency National Economic and Development Authority committee to plan and oversee the coordinated implementation of Sustainable Development Goal-related policies and programmes. Horizontal and vertical linkages of the committee with concerned planning and budget coordinating bodies and subnational councils, among others, will be clarified for policy and programme coherence. Notably, the Mindanao group of the Authority's subnational offices has taken the proactive stance of calling the attention of the Authority's Central Office to involve them in the mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals in subnational and local development planning and budgeting.

In respect of the means of implementation, the Government has yet to draw up an implementation road map for the Sustainable Development Goals that will serve as an overall framework to guide Government and other key stakeholders on the needed actions, resources, responsibilities and partnerships to ensure the success of implementation. The corresponding financing requirements of the implementation of the Goals and sources of funds will have to be consolidated into a financial plan that will be an accompanying document of the road map and will be linked to the yearly budget framework and public investment programming. The Government is interested in learning about the experience of other countries in coming up with their financial requirement for the Sustainable Development Goals and how financial resources were mobilized, especially innovative financing for the Goals. The Government would also like to hear other countries' experience in applying models, such as Threshold 21 for the simulation of long-term scenarios and the Advanced Data Planning Tool for costing statistical activities.

Republic of Korea

[Original: English]

Introduction

In September 2015, the States Members of the United Nations committed themselves to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, containing 17 Goals and 169 targets, most of which are to be achieved by 2030. The 2030 Agenda goes much further than the Millennium Development Goals, addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for sustainable development that works for all people. Encompassing universal, transformative, inclusive and integrated Goals and targets that herald a historic turning point for our world, the 2030 Agenda is arguably the most comprehensive global agenda adopted since 1945.

The present executive summary outlines the voluntary national review of the Republic of Korea, entitled "From a model of development success to a vision for sustainable development", which analyses the enabling environments, prospects, challenges and opportunities for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Republic of Korea and explains its best practices to share knowledge with all the stakeholders within and outside the Republic of Korea. The review aims to help Member States to cooperate with and learn from each other to successfully attain the Sustainable Development Goals.

Six main steps have been taken to produce the review: (a) reviewing national social, economic and environmental conditions in the light of the Sustainable Development Goals; (b) analysing the Goals with special attention to trade-offs and synergies between Goals and targets; (c) mapping and screening of governmental and non-governmental institutions to address the Sustainable Development Goals; (d) selecting national indicators relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals; (e) collecting relevant data from both governmental and non-governmental organizations; and (f) identifying organizations and actors with the potential to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in respect of the three pillars of sustainability (economy, society, environment). Literature reviews and semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders of governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations within and outside the Republic of Korea have been used to collect data.

Efforts towards sustainable development: prior to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda

The success of the Republic of Korea is not only about economic growth but also about the rapid reduction of poverty and inequality and the transition to democracy. Consistent efforts to further develop an inclusive society, which include the successful economic and social policy responses to the Asian economic crisis in 1997 and the global economic crisis in 2008, are particularly notable features of the Republic of Korea's development experience.

The Korean Government's commitment to sustainable development, which started with the Earth Summit in 1992, is a continuation of those consistent developmental efforts. After the Summit, the Government established the national action plan to implement Agenda 21 in 1996 and the National Commission on Sustainable Development in 2000. Since its inception, the Commission has developed sectoral strategies for sustainable development in various areas (energy, water, gender, social welfare, land, climate change, transportation, conflict management and official development assistance) and integrated those sectoral strategies into national policies through effective coordination and consensus-building processes among different line ministries. The Presidential declaration of 2005 on a national vision for sustainable development established the goal of continuing the growth of the Republic of Korea as an advanced country while maintaining a balance between economy, society and the environment, and clearly resonates with the integrative approach of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Since then, a series of laws and policies have been introduced to establish organizations to implement sustainable development-related goals. They include the standard guideline for the management and support for implementing organization

of local Agenda 21 (2004) and the Framework Act on Sustainable Development (2007). The National Commission on Sustainable Development was established by the Framework Act; the Commission prepares a report every two years that consolidates the results of the evaluation of sustainability, and publishes it after reporting to the President. The report is also submitted to the National Assembly.

Another feature of the Republic of Korea's developmental success is its sharing of knowledge and experience on development through international development cooperation. Focusing on disseminating what the country did, rather than imposing what other countries should do, the Republic of Korea incorporates the lessons drawn from its own development experience into international development cooperation and establishes a genuine partnership for mutual learning and sharing development lessons. In addition, as the host country of the Office for Sustainable Development, established by the United Nations and the Government of the Republic of Korea, the country actively supports Member States in planning and implementing sustainable development strategies, notably through knowledge-sharing, research, training and partnership building.

Policies and an enabling environment for the Sustainable Development Goals

The Government has continued its efforts to incorporate sustainable development concepts into its national and international development strategies since the early 1990s. However, as the framework and details of goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals were solidified, the necessity for building an institutional framework that could monitor and review the process of implementation from a broader perspective that fully integrated the three pillars of the Goals emerged. At present, the ministries and entities relevant to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment, Statistics Korea and the Office for Government Policy Coordination are making concerted efforts in further mainstreaming the Goals into the Government's policy.

Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into the national framework

In January 2016, the third national basic plan for sustainable development, which is updated every five years, was established by consultations with 26 government ministries and agencies. The third plan envisions a harmonized development of the environment, society, and economy. It also outlines 14 strategic targets around four overarching goal areas including the following: healthy land; an integrated and safe society; an inclusive creative economy; and global prosperity. The Government also adopted the road map to achieve national greenhouse gas reduction goals in 2014, which contains detailed implementation plans to achieve the national greenhouse gas reduction goals set in 2009. Considering the impact of greenhouse gases on various aspects of development, including climate change, the road map is expected to contribute to achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 13.

Furthermore, the Government has been implementing 140 policy goals within the framework of the 140 government policy and governance tasks. The tasks include 42 economic development, 52 social development, 13 environmental and 23 governance-associated goals. The Government has developed policies to achieve these tasks in a way to create synergies with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, the Government has been implementing the three-year plan for economic innovation, which aims at reforming the public sector, promoting a creative economy and boosting domestic demand. It is targeting the Sustainable Development Goals that are mainly associated with social and economic development, such as a fair and efficient economy, growth through innovation and the balance between exports and domestic consumption. Its expected outcomes associated with welfare and income of youth, women and the elderly, economic participation and a fair and transparent business environment are particularly conducive to achieving the economic and social development-related Goals, such as Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10 and 17.

The Government is paying special attention to the gender equality issue. The Framework Act on Gender Equality (2015) and the Act on Promotion of Economic Activities of Career-Interrupted Women (2010) are in effect. In particular, the Framework Act on Gender Equality contains reinforced policies for gender equality, such as implementing quotas for administrative positions in public organizations and promoting the participation of women in the decision-making process in the public, political and economic spheres.

Finally, the Government has established a series of laws and policy proposals to respond to the ageing population in the Republic of Korea, particularly those addressing the social and economic insecurity of people in various stages of their life course. They include the plan for an ageing society and population (2015), the framework act on low fertility and population ageing (2014), and the law for promoting elderly-friendly industries (2013).

The framework of existing government policies and plans, despite their direct and indirect relationship to the Sustainable Development Goals, was established before the adoption of the Goals and therefore needs to be fine-tuned to incorporate the Goals into those policies and plans. The Government is making efforts to mainstream the Goals so that government policies can address integrated and indivisible Goals and targets with full attention to trade-offs, interlinkages and complementarities among social, economic and environmental goals.

In that context, the Office for Government Policy Coordination, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Environment and Statistics Korea, which are playing a main role in mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals, have recently begun mapping exercises to identify existing laws, rules, regulations and policies conducive to achieving the Goals. In parallel, the Government will identify which of the Sustainable Development Goal targets are relevant to the national context. In particular, Statistics Korea is conducting an analysis of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, which will lay the foundation for the modification of national sustainable development indicators so as to ensure the availability of solid, disaggregated data for monitoring and assessing the progress of implementation of the Goals in the Republic of Korea.

Engaging with the National Assembly

The National Assembly has been playing a significant role in shaping the political impetus for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Republic of Korea. In 2014, the special committee on sustainable development was established, comprising 18 members of the National Assembly. The special committee proposed a position paper on the amendment of the Framework Act on

Sustainable Development to accelerate sustainable development. In the same year, 43 members of the Korean National Assembly founded the sustainable development goal forum, in collaboration with the Korean Association for Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The forum has engaged in diverse congressional activities related to the Goals, including holding seven regular forums, launching two campaigns and visiting United Nations Headquarters in New York. Such efforts will be continued to develop practical and diverse global initiatives to implement the Goals in the Republic of Korea.

Engaging with various stakeholders

The active participation of civil society organizations in designing and implementing policies for sustainable development is a result of synergy-making interactions between the Government and civil society. Since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, civil society organizations and the government, in particular at the local level, have engaged with each other to establish local agendas and action for sustainable development. Concerted efforts of government and civil society organizations culminated in the establishment of the Local Sustainability Alliance of Korea as a nationwide network of local Agenda 21 organizations (local councils for sustainable development) in 2000 and the standard guideline for the management and support for implementing organization of local Agenda 21 (2004). In particular, the Alliance, which consisted of about 200 organizations in 17 provinces as of 2016, has played a significant role in establishing local institutional and organizational frameworks for the Sustainable Development Goals in close collaboration with nine major local groups, including local governments, and addressing the Goals and targets relating to the Sustainable Development Goals. The Alliance continues its operations to further promote implementation of the Goals in the local context.

The role of local governments remains crucial in ensuring coherent implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals across the country. For instance, the Seoul Metropolitan Government will organize an international forum on urban policy for the Sustainable Development Goals (2016) to discuss Goals related to urban issues. The forum will provide a platform to support policy actions for the implementation of the Goals at the local government level. Combined with the policies and frameworks at the national level, such contributions from local governments will create synergies for a more inclusive and coherent implementation of the Goals.

There are also a number of grassroots movements. Many organizations committed to making contributions to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals are holding meetings and consultations to strengthen their partnership with other stakeholders in enhancing public awareness of the Goals and sharing information and knowledge with the government. They include the Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation, a network of Korean civil society organizations working to make development cooperation more effective, the Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network-Korea to name a few. Recognizing the importance of multi-stakeholder partnership in achieving the Goals, the Government of the Republic of Korea will promote the participation of various stakeholders,

including, in particular, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, women, children and the elderly.

Contributions of the Republic of Korea to the revitalization of global partnerships

To contribute to the revitalization of global partnerships to ensure the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Government of the Republic of Korea established the second mid-term official development assistance policy 2016-2020, which goes beyond the provision of specific means to meet sectoral needs towards an integrated and inclusive approach to achieving the Goals and enhancing the effectiveness of development cooperation.

Integrated official development assistance for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

The Government has established a new decision-making process to better align various development projects in a more coherent and concentrated manner. In accordance with the new principles and strategies laid out in the second official development assistance (ODA) policy, each ministry and agency in charge of ODA is requested to come up with annual ODA plans. In an effort to strengthen strategic cooperation between development cooperation agencies that are, respectively, in charge of grants and concessional loan projects, the Government has established a consultative mechanism between the Office for Government Policy Coordination, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Strategy and Finance and government aid agencies such as the Korea International Cooperation Agency and the Korea Eximbank.

In addition, to maximize the advantage of global partnerships through the strategic selection of partners and concentration of resources, the international development cooperation committee, composed of the Prime Minister and ministers of relevant ministries, including the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Strategy and Finance, established the country partnership strategy for the sustainable development of 24 prioritized countries.

Building a robust framework for official development assistance

To come up with new models for ODA programmes, the Government is examining its existing ODA programmes by analysing successful cases to derive lessons that can be applied to various regions and situations and to the various demands of development partners. In the meantime, the organizational structure of the Korea International Cooperation Agency has been changed, with increased manpower to enhance its project management and ODA programme development capacity.

To guarantee systematic evaluation of ODA programmes, the Government has made it mandatory for all national agencies for international development cooperation to undertake evaluation of the implementation of projects twice during the financial year, and has established a new mechanism to check the contribution of projects with regard to achieving Sustainable Development Goals. From the present year, each ministry and agency carrying out ODA projects is requested to specify the Goals and targets that are relevant to the particular projects submitted. At least 70 per cent of the projects submitted have been highly relevant to achieving the Goals. In addition, the Korean Government will enhance the transparency of ODA

by submitting comprehensive information on ODA projects in a timely manner to the International Aid Transparency Initiative starting in 2016, with a view to promoting the effectiveness and predictability of development cooperation. It will also try to gradually expand the coverage and quality of ODA data.

Inclusive official development assistance approach that leaves no one behind

To maximize synergies between diverse actors of both public and non-governmental sectors, the Government has established the principle of inclusive official development assistance and has facilitated the participation of the private sector by means of various programmes. For instance, the development action programme, an innovative approach to bolstering public-private partnerships, acts as a platform for multiple stakeholders, such as civil society organizations, business communities and academics, to cooperate with each other in developing creative approaches using new technology and business models. In addition, there are various thematic programmes to bolster partnerships with civil society organizations.

To raise public awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Government has been encouraging educational institutions to include content addressing official development assistance and the Goals in the textbooks for primary and secondary school students, carrying out nationwide campaigns for the implementation of the Goals and expanding funds for sending more young persons to international development cooperation project sites.

While leaving no one behind is a key value for Korean ODA, emphasis on humanitarian work is one of the pillars that constitute the Republic of Korea's inclusive ODA principle. The Government puts humanitarian diplomacy at the top of its diplomatic agenda and came up with a strategy for humanitarian assistance in March 2015. Moreover, its budget for humanitarian assistance has doubled over the last four years.

Key initiatives for the Sustainable Development Goals

The second policy emphasizes in particular the efforts of Korean international development cooperation to address areas such as education, health, science and technology, and rural development, in which the Republic of Korea's own experience can create comparative advantages.

The better life for girls initiative, announced by President Park Geun-hye at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda in September 2015, focuses on girls' education, health and professions and takes a gender-focused and goal-driven approach to empowering girls and reinforcing their position in society. By addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, the initiative is expected to serve as the surest investment in securing a sustainable future.

The safe life for all initiative is a manifestation of the Republic of Korea's strong commitment to the goals of the Global Health Security Agenda and making this world safe and secure from infectious diseases. The initiative aims to support the enhancement of health security partner countries to proactively prevent infectious diseases, detect them as early as possible and respond rapidly to public health crises.

The science, technology and innovation for a better life initiative is designed to help developing countries to overcome major stumbling blocks, such as their insufficient research and development expenditure and inadequate research institute capacity. Given the fact that this initiative constitutes a critical means for economic growth, the Republic of Korea aims to establish and develop an appropriate innovation system, by supporting science and technology education, to strengthen the research and development capacity of developing countries.

Knowledge- and experience-sharing relating to the Saemaul Undong movement draws a lesson from the Republic of Korea's unique rural development case in the 1970s. According to a recent report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the movement was a multidimensional and multi-sectoral strategy that buffered large-scale migration from rural to urban areas and an increasing rural-urban income gap during the time of industrialization. The Republic of Korea is committed to sharing the formula for the development of rural areas where more than three billion people live. In that regard, the special high-level event on Saemaul Undong on the occasion of the 2015 sustainable development summit, which was chaired by the President of the Republic of Korea and joined by Heads of State and international organizations, was a very meaningful occasion in translating the Republic of Korea's rural development experience into shared knowledge for all.

The preceding initiatives address the most vulnerable through the intervention in key areas of sustainable development, particularly in respect of Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 17. They have been formulated on the basis of the development experience of the Republic of Korea and its accumulated expertise, which is the basis for creating synergies between knowledge and resources.

Means of implementation

Official development assistance should remain as an important development resource in the Sustainable Development Goals era, especially for poor and vulnerable countries with special needs. As such, the Republic of Korea will continue to increase its ODA. Korea's second mid-term ODA policy 2016-2020 states that the Government will aim at increasing the total volume of ODA so that it reaches 0.2 per cent of gross national income by 2020. The current level (2014) is at 0.14 per cent. Korea also supports the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which provides a comprehensive framework to maximize the potential of all development actors and resources for financing sustainable development. In addition, Korea has been actively engaging in various initiatives and activities to promote collective efforts. In that regard, Korea is taking part in the Addis Tax Initiative and has continued to provide assistance to developing countries to modernize their tax administration systems and build capacity.

Conclusion

The early and proactive engagement of the Korean Government and civil society with sustainable development has created a favourable environment for building systems for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. A series of laws and regulations and a variety of governmental and non-governmental organizations for attaining sustainable development have developed in a mutually reinforcing way and have already begun addressing many of the Goals. However,

policy efforts by various government ministries and agencies to address the Sustainable Development Goals offer opportunities but also pose challenges.

The active participation of multi-stakeholders in the formulation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the early phase has produced a set of good conditions for an inclusive and integrated approach to the Goals. The encouragement and facilitation by the Government of meaningful participation by civil society organizations and the active roles of local governments and their interactions with local civil society organizations in implementing the Goals will be particularly important in leaving no one behind over the next 15 years.

Reshaping the international development cooperation strategy in line with the Sustainable Development Goals is also important. Through both bilateral and multilateral partnerships, the Republic of Korea's new strategy contributes to leaving no one behind by forging global partnerships for the Goals. Its key initiatives for sharing the knowledge and experience of the Republic of Korea, such as the better life for girls, Saemaul Undong for rural development, scientific and technological innovation for a better life, and safe life for all initiatives, also offer an innovative pathway to enhance the effectiveness of ODA during the Sustainable Development Goals period and beyond.

All the above-mentioned institutional and policy environments and conditions in the Republic of Korea hold both opportunities and challenges for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The successful development of enabling environments for attaining the Goals will ultimately be dependent upon the willingness and capacities of all the stakeholders to make inclusive and integrative approaches to the Goals. The initial responses of the Republic of Korea are promising.

Samoa

[Original: English]

The Government of Samoa strongly supports the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals to succeed the Millennium Development Goals. The overwhelming global support for the Sustainable Development Goals conveys a renewed commitment by the United Nations to support global paths to sustainable development by 2030, with a key focus on people, peace, prosperity, partnerships and the planet. Samoa's performance with regard to the Millennium Development Goals was generally positive; it clearly indicated that there were areas in which achievement of some targets was not possible by 2015 but that its intention was to accelerate progress and complete the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals as part of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Some key milestones achieved post-2015 included significant progress in halving the proportion of the population living below the basic needs poverty line from 27 per cent (2008) to just over 10 per cent (2015) and marked improvements in the representation of women in Parliament following the 2016 elections. Samoa graduated from least developed country status in 2014, the same year in which it hosted the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, with the outcome document entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway", which is the road map towards sustainable development for small island developing States.

Samoa was affected by the food, fuel and financial crises as well as such natural disasters as the 2009 tsunami and the 2012 cyclone Evan, which brought about a significant reduction in growth rates. To date Samoa has not been able to achieve pre-crises economic growth rates. With the help of its development partners, Samoa was able to implement a programme of accelerated progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, through policy reforms and the implementation of targeted programmes that clearly accorded priority to meeting the needs of the most vulnerable sectors of the population. Three Millennium Development Goal reports were prepared, in 2004, 2010 and 2014, which were supported by annual Pacific regional Millennium Development Goal tracking reports.

Samoa is currently implementing its national sustainable development strategy, known as the strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016. The long-term vision of the strategy is to ensure quality of life for all. It is based on seven national outcomes, which in turn are supported by sectoral outcomes reflecting the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. The mid-term review of the strategy began in 2014 with the intention that the new strategy 2016-2020 would come into effect on 1 July 2016. Samoa will continue to use its national sustainable development strategy and the resultant sector level plans to implement the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, the SAMOA Pathway, the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and all other global platforms to which Samoa is a party. Samoa has opted to use the strategy for the development of Samoa to implement its smooth transition strategy following graduation out of least developed country status.

Processes towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

Samoa, as part of the mid-term review of the strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016, conducted a preliminary integrated assessment of the strategy, in respect of the Sustainable Development Goals. The assessment provided an indicative overview of the level of alignment between the strategy and the Sustainable Development Goal targets. The consultative processes followed covered the whole country. The review findings formed the basis for the development of the new strategy 2016-2020, for which the theme is "Accelerating sustainable development and creating opportunities for all".

Methodology

The review of the strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016 was carried out initially at sector levels on an annual basis through a review of sector plans. The outcomes of the sector plan reviews were then mapped against the various national outcomes of the strategy. The information collated and data collected formed the basis for the public consultations. Following the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, the Samoa Bureau of Statistics issued the preliminary framework of indicators for the Goals to all key sector stakeholders, who were invited to comment on the relevance and alignment of such indicators to the sectoral and national indicators of the strategy. In the framework, targets that are not covered in the strategy and sector plans are specifically highlighted.

Overall assessment

The strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016 is generally aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals and targets. Goals 1-6, as well as Goal 10, remain as unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals and are prioritized for implementation. On the basis of regional prioritization under the Pacific Framework for Regionalism, the following Sustainable Development Goals are given emphasis, including at the national level, under environmental considerations: Goals 13, 14 and 15. Goals 7, 8 and 9 are pivotal in the achievement of economic growth and livelihood opportunities. Goals 11 and 12 need further attention, in particular the development of appropriate targets and indicators. Goals 16 and 17 are crucial to determining the means of implementation through meaningful and consolidated partnerships and through the institutional development reforms that will continue in order to improve accountability.

Initial findings

The following summarizes the initial assessment of the alignment for each Goal.

Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

The strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016 does not have a separate national or organizational outcome on poverty reduction. The household income expenditure survey and poverty analyses indicate that poverty and inequality rates have been increasing and that the increase was most prevalent in the rural areas. National outcomes related to poverty reduction include the following:

- Key outcome 1. Macroeconomic stability with a focus on inclusive growth
- Key outcome 2. Reinvigorate agriculture with emphasis on the use of technology to build value addition for agriculture and exports and on capacity-building at the community and village levels
- Key outcome 5. Focused support for rural businesses
- Key outcome 6. Strengthening health systems on the basis of health promotion and the orientation of the structures and functions of primary health care towards the values of equity, social justice and human rights
- Key outcome 7. Universal access to primary education and to years 9 to 11 at the secondary level
- Key outcome 8. Strengthened social safety nets and protection measures and enhanced resilience for all communities as well as strengthened poverty alleviation programmes for communities
- Key outcome 9. Sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Poverty does not, however, feature specifically in the key performance indicators.

Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

The strategy does not have a separate national or organizational outcome on hunger and food security. Key outcome 2 relates to reinvigorating agriculture by

encouraging investment to improve food security through enhanced production in livestock and selected crops.

Key outcome 6 relates to a healthy Samoa, with a focus on partnerships at all levels of Government and community to address social inclusion. Food security and nutrition targets are evident in the strategy for the development of Samoa but more so in the sector plans.

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Key outcome 6 of the strategy promotes a healthy Samoa and provides a strategic focus for the health sector and commitment towards such status through a focus on the six pillars of the health system: good governance and leadership; quality service delivery; human resources for health; health information systems; medical products and technology; and strengthened health financing. Outcome 6 also recognizes the increasing trends in non-communicable diseases and a corresponding fall in life expectancy and human development index performance as a result. There is also recognition of the importance of reducing the risk factors in non-communicable diseases which, with others, are the prerequisites for equitable access to quality health services.

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Key outcome 7 of the strategy calls for an improved focus on access to education, training and learning outcomes and provides direction to the achievement of quality education and training to meet socioeconomic and cultural goals. Improved education and training providing lifelong learning is directly relevant to the Goal and highlights the need to expand vocational training. The successful implementation of the key strategic areas will lead to improvements in other social areas, including improved nutrition, better livelihood opportunities and reduced criminal activities.

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

While key outcome 8.2 of the strategy focuses on empowering communities for sustainable development, including mainstreaming gender equality in policy development, the focus on improving women's rights and participation in public life is not sufficiently reflected. Ongoing work for the Millennium Development Goals reflects a more proactive position in respect of the participation of women in Parliament, as evidenced by the results of the recent elections. Community development sectoral outcomes include the importance of addressing violence against women and children through more socially and culturally acceptable approaches.

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Key outcome 9 of the strategy stresses sustainable access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation for the whole population, particularly since the health of the nation and control over the prevalence of waterborne diseases depends greatly on improved access to safe and reliable drinking water.

Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Key outcome 12 of the strategy concerns a sustainable energy supply, including targeting an increase of 20 per cent in the contribution of renewable energy to energy services and supply by the year 2030. Outcome 12 includes promotion of energy-efficient practices and enhanced public awareness of the conservation of energy, which can also be covered under environment and climate. Governance issues are covered through the establishment of regulatory functions and extensive infrastructure investments in the energy sector.

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

The relevant outcomes under Goal 8 include the following: key outcome 1, macroeconomic stability with a focus on inclusive growth; key outcome 2, reinvigorate agriculture with emphasis on the use of technology to build value addition for agriculture and exports and enhance capacity-building at community and village levels; and key outcome 5, focused support on rural businesses. Additionally, the Government is focusing on the implementation of a youth employment programme involving many partners, including the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Development Programme.

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Priority area 3 of the strategy for the development of Samoa 2012-2016 encompasses key outcomes 9, access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation; 10, efficient and sustainable transport system and networks; 11, universal access to reliable and affordable information and communications technology services; and 12, sustainable energy supply. Key outcome 14 is also relevant, as it focuses on building the resilience of infrastructure, such as roads and drainage, involved in upgrading the economic corridor for the country.

Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

Inclusion is reflected in the vision and agenda of the strategy for the development of Samoa. Key outcome 11 of the strategy focuses on universal access to reliable and affordable information and communications technology services and will also support increased competitiveness in the productive sectors and improve the delivery of social and emergency services to the whole country. One of the key principles of the strategy is that what is good for the urban areas is the same for rural areas. Key outcome 1 on achieving macroeconomic stability is also premised on inclusive growth as well as on the extensive reforms that have been implemented and that enabled Samoa to graduate from least developed country status.

Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Under priority area 2 (social policies), and key outcome 8 (social cohesion) of the strategy there is an emphasis on a safe and secure Samoa, including a balance of good governance practices in both formal and customary processes and services.

Under priority area 4 (the environment) and key outcome 13 there is an emphasis on the promotion of good land-use management practices, promotion of

green technologies, development of an urban agenda and policy, and effective waste management.

The strategy includes improving community engagement in the management of the environment.

Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

In the strategy, the production aspect is reflected to a greater extent than sustainable consumption. The key outcomes on reinvigorating agriculture and exports, key outcome 13 on environmental sustainability and the key outcomes under priority area 1 (economic policies) are all relevant.

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The strategy has a focused agenda relating to climate action. Key outcome 14 emphasizes an integrated approach to climate change and disaster resilience. The key outcomes under priority area 3 (infrastructure) are all relevant and focus on enhancing resilience through safe and secure infrastructure, choices for resilient agricultural practices and livelihood opportunities.

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

The relevant national outcome in the strategy is priority area 4, key outcomes 13 and 14: through increased efforts by communities to protect marine areas, critical ecosystems and endangered species and develop and implement tracking systems for chemicals and hazardous waste.

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The relevant key outcomes in the strategy are 13 and 14, which deal with improved land-use planning, management and administration for private and public spaces and improved use of natural resources for long-term flow of benefits.

Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

The strategy has a strong focus on promoting governance across all four priority areas and across all 14 key outcomes. Good governance principles reflected in the strategy include the following: more appropriate social and cultural practices; more efficient, effective, affordable, honest, transparent and apolitical public service focused on clear priorities, strengthened law and order and community security measures appropriately applied; appropriate decentralization of government administration, with enhanced scope for engagement with the public; the application of standards; and improved use of research and development, focusing on priority needs and identification of those most in need.

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

The strategy has prioritized partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society. These inclusive partnerships are built on principles of a shared vision and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre.

Though there is still some dependence on external support, efforts are being taken to mobilize domestic resources, including private resources, to deliver on sustainable development objectives. There is a determination to attract foreign direct investment in critical sectors, including sustainable energy, infrastructure and transport, and information and communications technologies. The public sector is expected to set a clear direction through the development of review and monitoring frameworks, regulations and incentive structures that enable such investments and reinforce sustainable development. National oversight mechanisms, such as supreme audit institutions and oversight functions by legislatures, continue to be strengthened.

The challenges faced

During the consultations in late 2014, stakeholders identified common challenges in making progress in respect of the Millennium Development Goals, including the following: human and institutional capacity constraints; lack of ownership and political will; lack of awareness and engagement of stakeholders and the challenge of localizing the Millennium Development Goals; lack of alignment with global and regional actions; insufficient resources and capacities for resource implementation; and a lack of baseline data and capacities to collect and analyse data. It was also noted that some Millennium Development Goal indicators were not relevant for Pacific island countries or were unable to be measured. In addition, more efforts are needed to strengthen development partner coordination and to strengthen the tracking of aid effectiveness.

Some of the key issues for Samoa include the following:

- There is a need to localize the indicators for relevance and greater accountability. It is also possible that the Government may set its own national targets and indicators to take into account national peculiarities. To stimulate the governmental exercise, sectors and lead ministries are encouraged to propose a series of indicators deemed important in the context of Samoa. Such indicators are proposed, as well as additional ones that are likely to come up in the coming months, from the dedicated sector work on mapping indicators with the Samoa Bureau of Statistics and development partners as well as from civil society.
- Given the breadth and depth of the 17 Goals and 69 targets, the demand for quality statistics will increase significantly and will be a challenge for many of the small island countries, Samoa included, that are already low capacity and resource poor.
- All countries need to tailor the Sustainable Development Goal indicators to their respective contexts; in addition, there is a need to prioritize the Goals for implementation that are suited to capacities and to ensure their relevance to addressing needs.

- One of the key lessons learned from monitoring the Millennium Development Goals at the regional level was the difficulty in monitoring progress in respect of the official indicators, as many indicators were not suitable in the Pacific context. In selecting the global Sustainable Development Goal indicators relevant to the Pacific context, it is important to ensure an open and inclusive consultation process, accounting for national priorities, that ensures country ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals. Given that the Sustainable Development Goals are also universal, it is an opportunity to demonstrate the solidarity of Pacific countries, as a group of developed and developing countries, working together to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in the region.

- In terms of follow-up and review, there was value in tracking progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, at both the regional and national levels. Countries generally faced difficulty in tracking progress on an annual basis at the national level, so regional monitoring helped to fill in the gaps and retained the focus of the Pacific leaders on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals each year. However, tracking progress on the Sustainable Development Goals on an annual basis will likely prove difficult given the increased number of goals, targets and indicators.

To mitigate the above-mentioned impacts, a thematic area could be considered each year, with complete reporting done every five years. Given the importance of political leadership in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, it is critical that Pacific leaders continue to oversee the monitoring of the Goals at the regional level. At the national level, it is important to focus on mainstreaming the Goals into national plans, budgets and monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

From the preceding challenges, lessons can be drawn to inform the post-2015 agenda. Such lessons include early and wide consultations to raise understanding and commitment; attention to proper planning and budgeting and the use of budget support for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals; capacity-building and successive planning; using simple language; building and sustaining capacity in data collection and analyses and their utilization; attention to the basics such as infrastructure and social services; properly analysing aspects of growth — inclusivity, vulnerable groups in society and social protection, for example.

A specific lesson from the Millennium Development Goals in the Pacific is the need to address not only the symptoms but also the root causes of structural inequalities underpinning poor development. To do so may require an alternative model of development: instead of a conventional growth model, one that puts humans at the centre and is linked to justice. This undertaking may also be facilitated by reconnecting with values expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

During the mid-term review, specific points were raised about the means of implementation. In the Pacific there was limited direct funding to countries to achieve Millennium Development Goal targets, and global and regional funding mechanisms were not easy to access. Coordination of donor support was also lacking. On the technology side, the relevance and sustainability (such as maintenance costs) of technology were obstacles in their role as contributor to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Capacities, including statistical capacities, have been stretched, and further tailoring of capacity-building initiatives

to the national level is needed. Finally, with regard to trade, the cost of compliance versus the benefits received from trade agreements was questioned for the Pacific.

What to do to overcome the challenges

From the initial consultations, it can be concluded that addressing the challenges indicated above will require identifying and developing effective and sound institutions and putting into place monitoring and early warning and response mechanisms to respond to risks and threats accordingly, as well as building on strengths and applying critical lessons learned. Samoa has a well-incentivized public service system, a well-established system of physical infrastructure conducive to the promotion of opportunities and growth, is known for political stability and enjoys contributing to peacekeeping efforts regionally and globally. Samoa has been undergoing reforms since the mid-1980s and has been proactive in remaining updated with regional and global issues and contributing successfully as a global partner.

At the regional level, Samoa has been a key participant and supporter of the peer review and peer learning processes that have been key to countries' efforts to execute South-South cooperation in order to exchange information, experiences and expertise among themselves on key development issues as well as on reforms necessary towards effective and durable partnerships with the development partners and institutions working in the region. All of the initiatives have been implemented under the auspices of the Pacific Islands Forum compact. Samoa to date has led the process of capacity-building by offering its institutions for the training of Pacific country officials, particularly for public finance management reforms, the use of country systems and governance processes such as the conduct of fair elections.

Given the interrelatedness of the Goals and targets supported by the implementation of the cross-cutting issues, there will be consideration of synergies, trade-offs and policy coherence. Every attempt will be made to collect disaggregated data to determine the distributionary impact of policies, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups. The strategic direction through policies developed will need to be linked to budget and development finance; this may result in further prioritization on the basis of need, capacities, outreach and gaps.

The Sustainable Development Goals will be implemented within the existing framework for implementing our national development plans, both current and new, with emphasis on the gap areas.

The domestication and/or localization of the Sustainable Development Goals in Samoa takes into consideration the principle of leaving no one behind, as development is already inclusive.

Accession to the voluntary review, and progress in national adaptation of the Sustainable Development Goals

It is with the above background in mind that Samoa views the Sustainable Development Goals as a timely opportunity to address the development challenges ahead. Samoa has prepared the present review to inform the United Nations at the July 2016 high-level political forum about the progress that Samoa has made in integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into our national development processes. Samoa, as the only small island developing State and Member State from

the Asia and Pacific region to be part of the initial voluntary review process, is hopeful that it can contribute a small island developing State perspective to the discussions and also encourage other Pacific small island developing States to follow suit.

Sierra Leone

[Original: English]

The Government of Sierra Leone strongly supports the launch of the Sustainable Development Goals to succeed the Millennium Development Goals. The new agenda conveys renewed commitment by the United Nations to support global paths to sustainable development by 2030. The previous agenda, the Millennium Development Goals, provided useful benchmarks that the Government strove very hard to achieve despite Sierra Leone's weak start at the dawn of the twenty-first century, owing to a devastating decade-long civil war (1991-2001) that crippled the economy and human development.

Unfortunately, while the Government was staying the course of pursuing and fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals, the nation was struck by yet another crisis, the outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in May 2014. The disease killed an estimated 3,500 of about 8,000 infected persons. It caused unprecedented damage to the social and economic fabric of the State before it was officially declared over on 7 November 2015. This natural catastrophe was exacerbated by a crisis in the mining sector that occurred at the same time. As the disease was raging, the international price of the country's leading export commodity (iron ore) was crashing, compelling the two leading mining companies of the mineral to suspend operations for at least a year during 2014-2015.[9] The economy plunged drastically during the twin crises. Growth in gross domestic product (GDP) decelerated from 15.2 per cent in 2012 and 20.1 per cent in 2013 to 4.6 per cent in 2014.[10] The estimated growth at the end of 2015 was minus 21.1 per cent. Consumer prices skyrocketed and at least 2.3 million people had their livelihoods worsened during these crises.

The combined effects of the twin crises seriously hindered progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals and undermined hopes of achieving Vision 2035 and becoming a middle-income country anchored in the successive implementation of its poverty reduction strategy papers, the current one being the Agenda for Prosperity (2013-2018). The effects of the crises have continued to linger, to the extent that the Government is currently instituting tough austerity measures to help the economy to rebound.

Progress on the Millennium Development Goals

Before Ebola virus disease struck in 2014, Sierra Leone had made progress in implementing the Millennium Development Goals by, among others, integrating its Goals into the national development plans, including the previous and current poverty reduction strategy papers. Two Millennium Development Goal reports had

[9] The two financially challenged mining companies were replaced by new companies during the period.

[10] See Government of Sierra Leone, "Sierra Leone National Ebola Recovery Strategy" (Freetown, 2015), Executive summary, sect. A.

been prepared (2005 and 2010) and the country had received a United Nations Millennium Development Goals award in 2010 in recognition of the President's remarkable leadership commitment and progress towards achieving Goal 6. Various socioeconomic surveys and sector reports indicated notable progress towards achieving a number of the Goals, and the country was optimistic that several Goals would be achieved by 2015. The poverty head count had declined from 70 per cent in 2003 to 52.9 percent in 2013; prevalence of underweight children was reduced from 20 per cent in 2004, to 16 per cent in 2013; the primary school completion rate stood at 76 per cent in 2013; the ratio of girls to boys in primary school was close to 100 per cent; HIV/AIDS prevalence dropped from 1.5 per cent in 2005 to 0.12 per cent in 2015; access to safe drinking water increased from 36.7 per cent in 1990 to 62.6 percent in 2015; and mobile cellular subscribers increased from 14.3 per cent in 2007 to 76.7 per cent in 2014. A draft 2015 Millennium Development Goals progress report has been prepared. The end-of-programme report and various socioeconomic assessments, including the Ebola Recovery Strategy, show that the Ebola virus disease reversed gains made in achieving several of the Goals. Serious challenges remain in a number of other areas, especially in reducing maternal and child mortality. In 2013, the maternal mortality rate was 1,165 deaths per 100,000 live births, and under-five and infant mortality rates were 156 and 92 deaths per 1,000 births, respectively. A huge disparity also remained in protecting the environment and enhancing sanitation and hygiene.

Challenges and lessons going forward

A number of challenges have emerged for Sierra Leone in the light of recent socioeconomic developments and their implications for the need to foster regional and global cooperation to ensure sustainable development. Poverty, vulnerability and inequality remain a concern. In view of the fact that Sierra Leone could suffer a cross-border infection on a monumental scale, such as that witnessed with the Ebola virus originating from Guinea, the regional and global dimension to a country's sustainable development cannot be overemphasized.

Sierra Leone's economy remains fragile and vulnerable to external shocks. It is highly dependent on mining for foreign exchange earnings, which is unpredictable, as corroborated in the recent crash of the international price of its leading export commodity, iron ore, suggesting that the country must diversify its economy to grow and develop sustainably.

Natural disasters are a continuous threat to the country. Recent disasters have included massive flooding that decimated homes and businesses and claimed scores of lives in the capital city of Freetown as well as in other regions. This occurred just as the country was emerging from the scourge of the Ebola epidemic in August 2015, thus speaking highly to the need for Sustainable Development Goal 11, which warns States to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, including integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management.

Related to the foregoing is the increasing evidence of the negative effects of climate change, including rising sea levels and frequent flooding. Sierra Leone has recently been reported to be among the countries of the world most vulnerable to the

effects of climate change.[11] Addressing those threats requires sustained development cooperation and investment in attitudinal and behavioural changes in consumption and production patterns, as well as in climate change-related disaster preparedness, such as early warning systems and prevention planning.

Other challenges include management of regional conflicts that require member countries' participation, such as responding to cross-border organized crime, terrorism, piracy, drugs and human trafficking and illicit financial flows robbing Africa of scarce development resources. Great attention is required to overcoming youth unemployment in pursuing social stability.

Leaving no one behind

The domestication of Sustainable Development Goals in Sierra Leone has taken into consideration the principle of leaving no one behind, as this is an added dimension of the special context and challenges the country faces, which require an adequate response in fulfilment of this principle. Accordingly, the Sustainable Development Goal consultation and popularization process has taken into consideration marginalized and excluded groups, including the disabled, women in rural areas, children, youth and households in informal settlements. Statistics Sierra Leone and other government agencies are being sensitized to collect disaggregated (including spatial) data that enable effective policymaking and tracking of relevant inequalities. Furthermore, upholding concerns relating to intergenerational environmental equity is crucial to the fulfilment of this objective; otherwise, not only will a huge cross-section of the present generation be left behind, but the sustained survival of those yet unborn could also be placed in doubt.

What to do to overcome the challenges

As gathered from the consultations, addressing the above-mentioned challenges requires development of a capable and effective State with sound institutions, as well as monitoring and early warning and response mechanisms to respond to risks and threats accordingly, building on acquired strengths and applying critical lessons learned. Having a well-incentivized public and civil service system and a durable and robust peace infrastructure is all the more critical to ensuring sustainable development in the country; including incentives that are accompanied by the inculcation of integrity at work.

Accession to the voluntary review and progress in national adaptation of the Sustainable Development Goals

It is against the background set out above that Sierra Leone has seen the Sustainable Development Goals as a timely opportunity to overcome the development challenges ahead. The Government has therefore prepared a review report to inform the United Nations at the July 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development about the progress that Sierra Leone has made in integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into its national development processes. So far, Sierra Leone has published a simplified version of the Goals, distributed copies to Parliament and the public at large; and provided a briefing to the Cabinet. Those efforts have been followed by series of sensitization meetings

[11] See http://standardtimespress.org/?p=5191.

and workshops with civil society and non-governmental organizations, the local councils, a cross-section of university colleges and the general public through radio and TV discussions. The Office of the President provides broad oversight to the Sustainable Development Goal adaptation process, while the Ministries of Finance and Economic Development and that of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation provide operational, technical and diplomatic leadership.

The Sustainable Development Goals were integrated into the 2016 national budget and have been aligned to the eight pillars of Sierra Leone's third-generation poverty reduction strategy paper. Technical workshops were organized to prepare the Sierra Leone Sustainable Development Goal adaptation report, which constituted the review report to present to the high-level political forum in July. A draft set of Sustainable Development Goal indicators specific to Sierra Leone have been formulated.

Planned implementation arrangement for the Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals will be implemented within the existing framework of implementing our national development plan, the Agenda for Prosperity. The institutional management framework is presented in figure 1. It is proposed to have a presidential board on the Sustainable Development Goals, which would operate at the highest policy and political levels to provide overall policy and strategic guidance in the implementation of the Goals. The board would be chaired by the President, with members drawn from the Office of the President, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of Information and Communication and the Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator. Below the presidential board would be the ministerial committee on the Sustainable Development Goals to provide operational guidance to the Sustainable Development Goal process across government line ministries, departments and agencies at the central and local levels, and across community service organizations/non-governmental organizations, the private sector, the media, the research community and academia. The ministerial committee will include the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Statistics Sierra Leone, the Open Government Initiative/Partnership, the Strategy and Policy Unit in the Office of the President and other government line ministries, departments and agencies. At the next level are the existing pillar working groups of the Agenda for Prosperity, which will be modified to capture technical follow-ups and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals within the pillars.

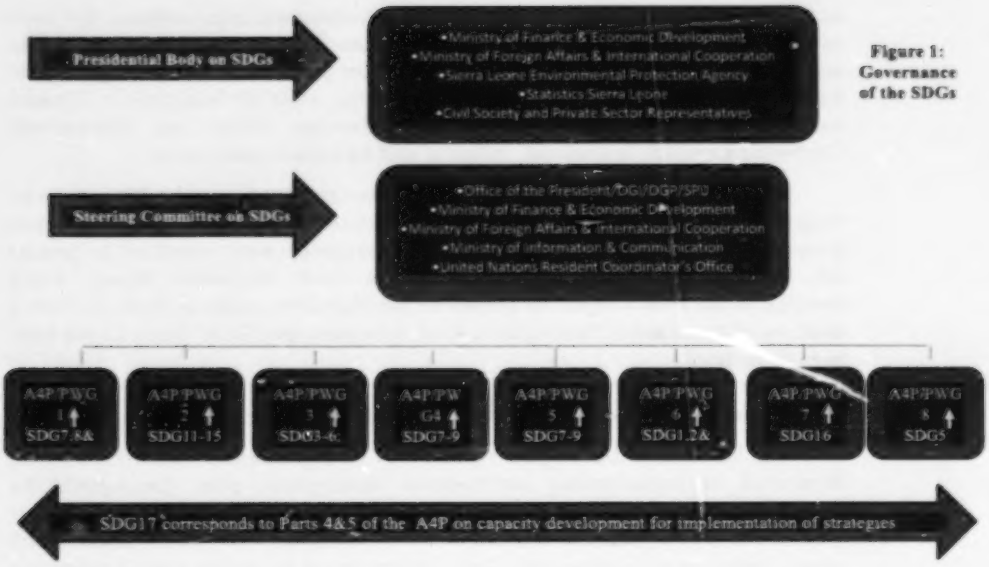
Presidential Body on SDGs
•Ministry of Finance & Economic Development
•Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation
•Sierra Leone Environmental Protection Agency
•Statistics Sierra Leone
•Civil Society and Private Sector Representatives
Steering Committee on SDGs
•Office of the President/DGI/DGP/SPU
•Ministry of Finance & Economic Development
•Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation
•Ministry of Information & Communication
•United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
A4P/PWG 1 SDG7,8&
A4P/PWG 2 SDG11-15
A4P/PWG 3 SDG3-6
A4P/PW G4 SDG7-9
A4P/PWG 5 SDG7-9
A4P/PWG 6 SDG1,2&
A4P/PWG 7 SDG16
A4P/PWG 8 SDG5
SDG17 corresponds to Parts 4&5 of the A4P on capacity development for implementation of strategies

Figure 1: Governance of the SDGs

Implementation of the adaptation plan shall be informed by the principles of the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States, such as transparency, ownership, one plan, capacity development and joint management of risk, guiding development interventions in fragile States such as Sierra Leone, as well as the principles of mutual accountability to ensure effectiveness of aid. All development actors, including the public sector, community service organizations/non-governmental organizations, donor agencies, local councils and the private sector shall be coordinated within the institutional framework described in figure 1.

Switzerland

[Original: English]

The Swiss Confederation considers the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development a unique opportunity to strengthen and to boost sustainable development at all levels: global, regional, national and subnational. It therefore took an active role in the international process from 2013 to 2015 to draw up the universal Sustainable Development Goals, the means of implementation and financing framework (the Addis Ababa Action Agenda), as well as an effective follow-up and review system. Another key Swiss concern in the negotiation process was that the new goals should integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions in a balanced manner and take account of the interlinkages between them; that remains a concern for the future.

High commitment at all levels

The Swiss Federal Council decided, in December 2015, to keep this high level of engagement and contribute in a meaningful way to implementing the 2030

Agenda, both in domestic and in foreign policy. In January 2016, the Federal Council adopted the Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019, which underlines the need for sustainable development to be a coherent feature of all policy areas. Consequently, wherever possible, Switzerland's international engagement, in particular its future international cooperation as well as sectoral foreign policies, will also be oriented towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

During a "transition phase" in 2016/2017, a comprehensive programme of work is being put into practice. This work is being managed by a temporary interministerial working group with the aim of:

- Clarifying institutional arrangements, processes and responsibilities in the Federal Administration for the effective implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda;
- Conducting a baseline study as well as a gap analysis covering all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, to identify and define future areas of action to implement the 2030 Agenda;
- Ensuring adequate monitoring and reporting by expanding the Swiss system of sustainable development indicators, as appropriate.

By early 2018, a report summarizing those and other efforts, and formulating relevant recommendations for Swiss implementation of the 2030 Agenda, will be presented to the Federal Council. Based on the findings from the transition phase and decisions taken by the Federal Council, Switzerland will present a first comprehensive country review at the high-level political forum in 2018.

Creating ownership and increasing policy coherence

In a decentralized country such as Switzerland, subnational authorities, i.e. the cantons and communes, fulfil an important role. It is, therefore, a key concern of the Swiss Confederation to factor sustainable development principles into all levels of government in order to create and increase ownership. Sustainable development should not be regarded as an additional government task, but rather it should be integrated as far as possible into regular planning and control processes. In the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, great importance is attached to vertical cooperation between the Confederation, the cantons and the communes, as well as to strengthening policy coherence for sustainable development at all levels.

Switzerland has a long tradition of conducting political processes based on stakeholder participation for the coordination of both national and international policies. Previous participatory processes in the context of sustainable development have been consolidated since the fourth quarter of 2015. A new and comprehensive consultation procedure, the 2030 Dialogue on Sustainable Development, has resulted, which will ensure that the outcomes of the stakeholder dialogue continue to provide input and that all relevant stakeholder groups are involved in ongoing processes linked to the Confederation's sustainable development policy cycle of planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reporting.

Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019

The following guidelines, part of the Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019, explain how the Swiss Confederation intends to integrate sustainability policy into all of its sectoral policies:

- Take responsibility for the future
- Balanced consideration of the three dimensions of sustainable development
- Incorporate sustainable development into all policy areas
- Improve coherence and coordination between policy areas
- Forge sustainable development partnerships

The 2030 Agenda provides a framework for addressing key challenges all countries must overcome in a way appropriate to their particular circumstances. In this spirit, the Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019 consists of a concrete action plan, structured into the following nine thematic areas of action in the priority fields for sustainable development, including its global dimensions and the interplay of Switzerland and other countries. These priorities are based on the general focus areas of overall federal government policy, on the objectives determined by the 2030 Agenda and on the outcomes of the stakeholder dialogue:

1. Consumption and production (Goal 12)
2. Urban development, mobility and infrastructure (Goals 9 and 11)
3. Energy and climate (Goals 7 and 13)
4. Natural resources (Goals 2, 6, 14 and 15)
5. Economic and financial system (Goals 8, 10, 16 and 17)
6. Education, research and innovation (Goal 4)
7. Social security (Goals 1 and 16)
8. Social cohesion and gender equality (Goals 5, 10 and 16)
9. Health (Goal 3)

Swiss foreign policy

The Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019 and its Action Plan also list selected foreign policy activities. Switzerland is strongly committed to sustainable development through its foreign policy, including its foreign economic policy, international cooperation and sectoral foreign policies. With its engagement in international processes geared towards specific sectors, including multilateral conventions, bilateral agreements and regional and global (United Nations) programmes, Switzerland contributes to the advancement of sustainable development in its three dimensions. The new Swiss Foreign Policy Strategy 2016-2019 defines the broad outlines of Switzerland's international commitment for the legislative period until 2019. Sustainable development forms one of the four key priorities of the strategy.

The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals will form an integral part of Switzerland's international cooperation efforts in the future.

Through its Dispatch on International Cooperation 2017-2020, which is currently under deliberation in Parliament, the Federal Council applies for framework financing facilities and determines the instruments that will be used to implement the Sustainable Development Goals as part of Switzerland's international cooperation activities. In the period from 2017 to 2020, Switzerland will focus its efforts on the following seven objectives in order to strengthen its contribution to achieving the respective Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda:

1. Contribute to the development of an international framework for responding to global challenges
2. Prevent and manage the consequences of crisis and disaster, and of fragility; promote conflict transformation
3. Support sustainable access to resources and services for all
4. Promote sustainable economic growth
5. Strengthen the rule of law and democratic participation; support institutions serving society and the economy
6. Ensure respect for human rights and fundamental liberties, and support efforts to advance their cause
7. Strengthen gender equality and the rights of women and girls

Institutional transition towards effective implementation and follow-up

During the 2016/17 transition phase, the alignment of Swiss sustainability policy with the 2030 Agenda will be further developed. Questions relating to institutional arrangements will be examined and modifications proposed where necessary. Particular attention will be paid to coordinating national, subnational and international processes as effectively as possible. Building on existing structures, the aim is to arrive at an efficient process within the Swiss Confederation to implement the 2030 Agenda in both domestic and foreign policy. Synergies should be created between national and international processes, while avoiding duplication and overlaps. Initial work will also be done on what exactly implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals will entail.

Federal offices are required to include sustainable development in their own periodic reports on items of business or areas covered by their sectoral policies. In order to measure and report on contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals, Switzerland uses its comprehensive sustainable development monitoring system (MONET), in place since 2003. With its approximately 75 regularly updated indicators it is observed whether, as well as in what context and areas, Switzerland is on the path to sustainable development. In May 2016, the system's reference framework was amended in order to be ready to take into account the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, thus laying the foundation for both national and international reporting.

The Confederation is also committed to actively engaging in the high-level political forum on sustainable development alongside all other countries and all relevant stakeholder representatives. Accordingly, it will participate in the planned periodic reporting and implementation monitoring for the Sustainable Development

Goals, provide specific input on how the basis of data can be improved and help developing countries to build their national capacities to draft strategies for sustainable development and to track their implementation.

Means of implementation

The implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019 is funded via the budgets that have been approved by the individual federal offices, which are responsible for incorporating the necessary financial resources into their financial planning. The Swiss Confederation also supports the comprehensive financing and implementation framework adopted by all Member States of the United Nations at the third International Conference on Financing for Development: the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Moreover, Switzerland is highly engaged in support of international conventions and standards in order to strengthen the normative global framework favouring the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Swiss Confederation strives to address the multiple challenges posed by the adaptation of the Sustainable Development Goals to Switzerland's national context. Accordingly, it will initiate and foster implementation partnerships in all areas and at all levels. Close cooperation between the Government, interested associations and non-governmental organizations — primarily from the environmental, development cooperation, business and social spheres — has been developed on a regular basis for many years. This coordinated approach between the various areas and actors will be further consolidated in order to engage broader-based partnerships and multi-stakeholder initiatives to complement Switzerland's significant share in the transformation of our world towards sustainable development by 2030.

Togo

[Original: French]

In 2000 the international community adopted the Millennium Development Goals with a view to creating a better world for humanity by 2015. In Togo, work towards these Goals began in 2007 with the development of its long-term national development strategy based on the Millennium Development Goals. By the end of 2015, significant progress had been made. However, sustainable development challenges remain. Drawing lessons from the results of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the international community determined to equip itself with a development agenda incorporating the sustainability dimension, to be achieved by 2030.

As a pilot country, Togo actively participated in developing and adopting the Sustainable Development Goals, and formulating the post-2015 development agenda. Further to its involvement in that process, Togo volunteered to prepare and present to the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2016 a progress report on its integration of the Sustainable Development Goals into national planning and development instruments.

The information contained in the report is summarized below.

Existing sustainable development programme

Before the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted, Togo already had its own vision for sustainable development: to build a society based on integrated and environmentally sustainable economic and social development by 2030. This vision was embodied in the national sustainable development strategy elaborated in 2011. In addition, a new national planning system was developed and approved with a view to better integrating the Sustainable Development Goals. The country learned lessons from the mixed results of its work to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and committed to working to make the post-2015 development agenda a success.

Development and adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals

In addition to working to achieve the ambitions expressed by the Togolese people during the preparation of the post-2015 development agenda, the Government of Togo has developed other initiatives to better take ownership of the approach required by this new development framework. These include:

- Establishment of the national programme for capacity-building and modernization of the State in support of sustainable development in Togo, 2015-2019;
- Training on the sustainable development analysis matrix;
- Training on the tools used to develop the post-2015 development agenda and the strategy for sustainable public spending in Togo;
- Awareness-raising among parliamentarians on the post-2015 development agenda;
- Awareness-raising among the media and civil society;
- Awareness-raising about regional planning based on the Sustainable Development Goals and dissemination of relevant information.

Carrying out the preparatory review

Togo took a four-stage methodological approach to the review on which it based the report submitted to the high-level political forum on sustainable development:

(a) Preparation (identification and mobilization of stakeholders)

(b) Consultation with stakeholders (provision of information on the process and the data to be collected, dissemination of the questionnaire, synthesis and analysis of data, discussions on the compiled data)

(c) Drafting of the report (establishment of a technical secretariat, preparation of the provisional report)

(d) Validation of the report (technical validation of the report by stakeholders, adoption of the report by the Council of Ministers)

Lessons learned

The Government's participatory and inclusive approach has allowed a critical mass of actors to take greater ownership of, and prepare to implement, the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets. Stakeholders have demonstrated a clear commitment to work to ensure success in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and so remedy the shortcomings observed with regard to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Principal challenges

The major challenges are in the areas of capacity-building and resource mobilization to support achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Initiatives taken after the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals

Following the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, training on the tools and methodology used to integrate the Goals and their targets into planning was organized for national and subregional stakeholders. The Government also began preparing its national development plan (2018-2022), which will replace its accelerated growth and employment promotion strategy. The national development plan will provide the foundation for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals. To that end, indicators have been defined, and goals, targets and indicators prioritized. It is important to highlight the commitments made by Togo at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris in 2015 to develop a global response to the threats of climate change and poverty. Togo also launched an extensive emergency community development programme to meet the social needs of communities at the grass-roots level.

Efforts to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into development policies and strategies

Efforts have been made by both State actors (national institutions and ministries) and non-State actors (private sector, civil society, and technical and financial partners) to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into national planning instruments. Work done by these actors includes: (a) awareness-raising with regard to updating policies, strategies, programmes and projects; (b) dissemination of information on the Sustainable Development Goals; (c) awareness-raising to ensure ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals; (d) identification and inclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals in planning documents; and (e) participation in international and regional meetings concerning integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in planning.

Important areas to be addressed

Energy, coastal erosion, youth employment and capacity-building are major emerging problems. Faced with these challenges, Togo intends to:

- Gear its strategies, programmes and plans towards low-carbon development, based on new and renewable sources of energy;
- Combat the advance of the sea through coastal reinforcement, and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to the effects of climate change;

- Strengthen youth employment promotion;
- Implement its national programme for capacity-building and modernization of the State in support of sustainable development, in order to rebuild human, institutional and organizational capacity — which was severely depleted as a consequence of the long sociopolitical crisis of the 1990s — with a view to setting Togo back on the path to sustainable development.

Means of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

In order to mobilize the resources necessary to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, the Government has begun work on the national development plan, which, once finalized, will be submitted for donors' approval at a round-table event. The private sector and the diaspora are additional potential sources of financing for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In addition, in order to mobilize domestic resources more efficiently, the Government has merged the tax and customs services to establish the Togolese Revenue Office.

Next steps

In the short and medium term, the Government intends to:

- Draft, validate and adopt the national development plan;
- Prepare a guide to integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into planning;
- Strengthen capacity for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into planning;
- Update existing policies and strategies with reference to the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Update governance reporting procedures in Togo to improve accountability in the implementation of the national development plan;
- Establish a mechanism to monitor and evaluate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- Raise awareness of the national development plan.

In the long term, the national development plan will be assessed in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals and the country's vision for 2030.

Turkey

[Original: English]

Bearing in mind that each country will decide on the scope of its review and the format in which it wants to present its voluntary national review, Turkey would like to present the outline of its review to be submitted to the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development. The following components are planned for inclusion in Turkey's report, in line with the proposal for voluntary common reporting guidelines that was delivered at the first retreat meeting.

Millennium Development Goal status of Turkey, with a particular focus on the theme of the 2016 high-level political forum

The theme of the 2016 high-level political forum is "Ensuring that no one is left behind"; therefore, the Millennium Development Goal status of Turkey will be presented with this theme in mind and with a forward-looking perspective to the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Information on the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals will also be presented. In addition, the section will include best practices and lessons learned.

Initial reflections. Turkey has shown substantial success with regard to almost all Millennium Development Goals during the last 15 years. Even though progress on some goals, such as gender equality, was not adequate, comprehensive efforts to increase achievement in all Goals created a holistic development perspective among policy practitioners. For some goals — eradicate extreme poverty, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, improve drinking water sources and sanitation facilities and develop a global partnership for development — Turkey is among the top 10 performers as measured by average annual rates of relative progress.

The sustainable development concept in Turkey's policy environment

The sustainable development concept in Turkey's national plan and human-centred development approach will be outlined. The main policy areas in Turkey's national development plan that relate to the Sustainable Development Goals will be highlighted. The structure of the tenth development plan, which covers the period 2014-2018, including the development axes of the plan and the transformation programmes, will be elaborated in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Development.

Initial reflections. In Turkey, sustainability policies are integrated into various laws, regulations and action plans of various policy fields and sectors. Above all, however, the national development plan of Turkey is the guiding document for all macrolevel national policies and priorities. Turkey first introduced the concept of sustainable development into its seventh development plan in 1996 after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Recently, the outcomes of that Conference have been integrated into the tenth development plan. One of the main axes of the tenth development plan is sustainability, and it is based on the human-centred development approach. Additionally, preliminary analysis shows that there is a high correlation between the tenth development plan and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Integration of the Sustainable Development Goals into the national development plan

The present section will explain how the Sustainable Development Goals will be embedded into the strategies for the upcoming eleventh development plan. The ongoing efforts and background studies undertaken to insert the Goals into national strategies will also be shared.

Initial reflections. Turkey is currently in the process of updating its long-term vision to support the preparation process for its eleventh development plan. Turkey intends to take the Sustainable Development Goals as one of the main inputs to the long-term vision and the plan.

Institutional mechanisms to implement the Sustainable Development Goals

The coordination role of the Ministry of Development, high-level legal bodies that are relevant for Sustainable Development Goals, the new Sustainable Development Coordination Commission and the shared responsibility of line ministries for implementing the 2030 Agenda will be presented in this section.

Initial reflections. The Ministry of Development, which is responsible for the preparation of the national development plans of Turkey, will follow a policy coherence approach at the centre of the implementation process for the Sustainable Development Goals. Given the coordination role of the Ministry and the macrolevel placement of national development plans at the top of the policymaking process in Turkey, implementation of the Goals will be the shared responsibility of all ministries. This sharing will facilitate the integration of the Goals into all relevant strategy and policy documents at the central and local levels. Turkey has a Sustainable Development Coordination Commission coordinated by the Ministry. The responsibilities of the Commission are to be strengthened and widened in line with its coordinating role, especially for the implementation and reporting process of the Goals and taking into account the comprehensive nature of the 2030 Agenda. It is planned to extend the role of the Commission, including by increasing the number of its members, to provide an integrated and holistic approach to the drivers and progress of the Goals. It is also planned to ensure high-level participation in the Commission to ensure effective policy- and decision-making. The Commission will have a role in the follow-up and review process for the implementation of the Goals.

Public awareness and ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals

Turkey aims to prepare an agenda that will be embraced by all stakeholders as well as all citizens. In this section, the strategies for increasing ownership and public awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals will be outlined. The awareness campaign will include outreach activities to be conducted together with academia, non-governmental organizations and the business sector through a variety of communication methods.

Initial reflections. In the implementation phase of the 2030 Agenda, political ownership will be essential for successful outcomes. Taking into account the comprehensive and universal nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, political ownership at the highest possible level and effective coordination among all stakeholders will be key factors for translating the global vision of the Goals into national sustainable actions. The 2030 Agenda gives responsibility not only to Governments but also to business, non-governmental organizations and academia. Turkey aims to guarantee a national setting that encompasses the effective contribution of all relevant stakeholders for the planning, implementation and review of the Sustainable Development Goals. The agenda should be reflected in the working programmes and priorities of all the relevant stakeholders.

Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and monitoring progress

This section covers the role and capacity of the Turkish Statistical Institution (TURKSTAT). Monitoring progress will be mainly the responsibility of TURKSTAT. The initial steps taken by TURKSTAT to produce indicators will be shared under this heading.

Initial reflections. Regarding follow-up and review, Turkey intends to develop a review framework that is in conformity with the United Nations monitoring and review framework. Consequently, national Sustainable Development Goal review reports are expected to be prepared on a four-yearly basis, regarding the agenda of the high-level political forum. In terms of monitoring the Goals at the national level, Turkey already has a set of national sustainable development indicators, composed of 132 indicators under 10 categories, in place since 2000. That monitoring framework will be further developed in the light of the Sustainable Development Goal global indicators, according to our national priorities and capabilities. TURKSTAT follows closely the work of the United Nations on the indicators and will shortly initiate work for analysing and filling the data gap. TURKSTAT will have the central role for the monitoring part of the 2030 Agenda, on the basis of the global indicators. Turkey will develop its current set by taking into account the results of United Nations statistics work relating to the global common monitoring framework and the national priority list of Sustainable Development Goals.

Development cooperation setting of Turkey and possible partnerships for future collaboration

Development cooperation strategies and experiences will be shared under this heading. In addition, the potential needs and the role of Turkey in terms of finance, capacity-building, technology or partnerships will be elaborated.

Initial reflections. Turkey is an emerging donor in the development cooperation field, and official development assistance (ODA) provided by the country has increased rapidly in recent years. In 2014, net ODA provided by Turkey amounted to $3.6 billion, representing an increase of 15 per cent in real terms over 2013. The ratio of ODA as a share of gross national income (GNI) rose from 0.40 per cent in 2013 to 0.45 per cent in 2014. Preliminary data show that ODA reached $3.9 billion in 2015 (0.54 per cent of GNI). Turkey provides development cooperation in line with the Statutory Decree on the Organization and Duties of the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, adopted in 2011. The Agency designs and coordinates Turkey's bilateral development cooperation activities and implements projects in collaboration with other ministries, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Other public institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector also implement projects and programmes funded through ODA provided by Turkey.

Challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and experiences

The present section highlights potential problems. Institutional arrangements to handle the challenges, particularly the ones related to coordination, will be shared with the other countries. Lack of capacity, especially in carrying out data collection and analysis and ensuring ownership of the 2030 Agenda by all stakeholders, are among the first instant challenges to be shared.

Additionally, breaking silos and working together on particular goals in an integrated manner will be a critical challenge since they require a change in approaches to regular policymaking processes. The best ways to integrate sustainable development policymaking at all levels and the opportunities for or barriers to integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development will be explored.

Conclusions and messages for the international community

Turkey will present its messages for the international arena in this section, taking into consideration the challenges and needs for the future of sustainable development.

Additionally, Turkey would like to hear about other countries' plans and good practices on the methodology for national reviews. Turkey would also like to learn more about other countries' experiences with the incorporation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in their national context. Those concerns and questions will be shared to enable a mutual learning environment.

In the context of the new development agenda, Turkey believes that continuing its human-centred development approach, which has as its main axis equality and sustainability, is crucial. Fighting poverty to ensure an honourable quality of life for everyone is Turkey's utmost priority. Additionally, maintaining a peaceful society and ensuring the rule of law and good governance are enablers of our goals and targets and support a level playing field for all. Turkey views governance and strong institutional capacity as the fourth pillar of sustainable development. Without them, it is almost impossible to realize the goals and targets. Therefore, the creation of partnerships for capacity-building and empowerment of the respective institutions should have a high priority for all.

Uganda

[Original: English]

Following the expiration of the Millennium Development Goals development framework and the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, Uganda has embraced the principles for sustainable development, namely: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships, to ensure that "No one is left behind". Accordingly, Uganda is among the first countries to localize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has volunteered to conduct a national review under the auspices of the first high-level political forum in July 2016.

Uganda has actively pursued the sustainable development agenda since the early 1990s, when it gained ascendancy as a development paradigm. That pursuit has unfolded in three distinct transition phases: post-war reconstruction (1986-1997); poverty eradication (1997-2009); and socioeconomic transformation (2010-2020)

Nearly three decades on from the first United Nations conference on sustainable development in 1992, Uganda remains steady in its commitment to sustainable development. Results from the 2014 National Population and Housing Census reconfirm that this commitment is yielding desirable results. Between 1991 and 2014, life expectancy rose from 48.1 to 63.3 years; infant and under-five mortality rates dropped from 122 and 203 deaths per 1,000 live births to 53 and 80, respectively; orphanhood levels dropped from 11.6 to 8.0 per cent; literacy levels rose from 54.0 to 72.2 per cent; income poverty declined from 56 to 19 per cent; access to electricity — a factor that has a heavy impact on the environment in Uganda — increased from 5.6 to 20.4 per cent; and the proportion of the national

budget that is funded from domestic sources has increased from 64.7 per cent (1991/92) to 82 per cent (2014/15).

Despite the progress outlined above, Uganda still has significant room for improvement in the sustainable development agenda. The economy is still heavily reliant on natural resources and agriculture; the current demographic structure implies a high dependency ratio and low domestic savings mainstreamed in it. Key efforts in that regard include national and local level consultations on localization of the 2030 Agenda; national information, education and communication campaigns; high-level policy dialogue engagements; institutional capacity-development; and revitalized engagement with the private sector.

Principles, policies, planning and programming

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda has been interpreted nationally as embracing principles of sustainable development that promote prosperity for all people and protect the planet from degradation so that it supports the needs of current and future generations.

The localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires innovative approaches and adaptive programming of its interventions. On this note, the Government of Uganda has commenced implementation of a range of new social programmes on the basis of enhanced targeting capabilities, with the aim of ensuring that no one is left behind. Notable among them are: operation wealth creation; universal primary and secondary education; the youth livelihood programme; the higher education students loan scheme; the social assistance grant for empowerment for the elderly; the legal aid programme; the women's entrepreneurship programme; the community tree planting project; and the skilling Uganda programme.

National capacity

Over the years, Uganda has made efforts to enhance its national capacity to formulate and implement development policies, plans and programmes. However, the ambitious and comprehensive nature of the 2030 Agenda requires further enhancement of national capacity with regard to how best to steer inclusive development across time, sectors and regions of the country. Key among these are: strengthening institutions; creating financing mechanisms; rallying the private sector, civil society, citizens and other partners towards implementation; and developing public-private partnerships.

Uganda has developed a national standard indicator framework to track progress towards attainment of middle-income status by 2020. This framework builds on the national policy on public sector monitoring and evaluation and the integrated monitoring and evaluation strategy. Through those instruments, the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals will be monitored, evaluated and reported on. Uganda has already established that out of 230 indicators in the global indicator framework for the Goals, only 80 indicators have data readily available in its current national statistical framework. There are efforts however, to develop and integrate other indicators that cover all the relevant targets.

Means of implementation

The existing legal, policy and institutional frameworks provide an enabling environment for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. For example, Uganda has introduced a number of reforms and pieces of legislation that will facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Chief among them is the Public Finance Management Act (2015), the Public-Private Partnership Act (2015), the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act (2014), the Financial Institutions Amendment Bill (2015) and the Registration of Persons Act (2015). Furthermore, Uganda has prioritized increasing domestic revenues as a proportion of GDP, investment in public infrastructure, efficiency in service delivery, use of technology and innovation, reform of public procurement, debt management, and partnerships with development partners, the private sector, academia and citizens.

To strengthen implementation and improve institutional functionality, Uganda has undertaken a number of reforms, including the establishment of a Prime Minister's delivery unit, the Government Evaluation Facility and institutional coordination mechanisms. Uganda is also issuing certificates of compliance with both the national development plan and budgets and gender and equity requirements, and is gradually shifting from output-based to programme-based budgeting.

Conclusion

The Government of Uganda reaffirms its commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognizes the remaining challenges that require concerted efforts and partnerships to facilitate attainment of the desired development Goals and targets. Uganda intends to partner with the international community in delivering this goal development agenda.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

[Original: Spanish]

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela hereby submits to the high-level political forum on sustainable development the executive summary of its voluntary national review, in line with the proposal for common reporting guidelines contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General on critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers that the voluntary national review is an expression of political commitment to raising our people's standard of living, overcoming the rentier model established more than 100 years ago and strengthening the mainstreaming of human rights and the political participation of the Venezuelan people, in a lead role and with joint responsibility, in all public policy initiatives. Both dimensions, the people and the State, are entirely consistent with progress in the historical construction of Bolivarian socialism under the three modalities of the Sustainable Development Goals: social, ecosocialist-environmentalist and economic-productive inclusion.

The response to and implementation of the Millennium Development Goals has been a fundamental guiding principle for current sustainable development policies in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, with the support of the United

Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Venezuela has therefore implemented the Sustainable Development Goals in a comprehensive, complementary and targeted manner to overcome the prevailing economicist view and incorporate multidimensional perspectives regarding the right to development and the final eradication of poverty and inequality. It upholds independence, self-determination, permanent sovereignty over natural resources and the pre-eminence of the State as fundamentally responsible for development.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers the Sustainable Development Goals to be the legitimate product of an open and transparent intergovernmental process in which the Venezuelan State is capable of achieving success; that is essential to its national ownership and implementation of the 17 Goals and 169 associated targets. In the area of public education, President Nicolás Maduro Moros demonstrated that commitment in the Council of Ministers on 29 September 2015 by advancing the collective ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals by the people and the State for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in conjunction with the national development plan for 2013-2019 and some of the main goals and targets of the national plan to eradicate poverty by 2019 (the "zero poverty" plan).

Such political commitment at the highest level, followed by legal and institutional arrangements, has facilitated our country's general development policy framework and will enable strategic partnerships to finance and strengthen the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in accordance with national plans, thereby contributing to the sustainability and enhancement of the 15 productivity drivers currently being promoted in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the industrial, social and economic sectors and tourism to overcome the oil rentierism that has prevailed for more than 100 years.

Summary

Since 2015, when the President of the Republic ordered the collective implementation and ownership of the 2030 Agenda, progress has been made in such crucial areas as the adaptation and alignment of the legal and policy frameworks for sustainable development; relevant aspects of the institutional framework for the coordination and coherence of the implementation of the Agenda; the involvement of actors other than the State; and the analysis, adoption and supplementing of the indicators that validate such progress.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers the steps taken to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets, immediately after their adoption by the General Assembly, to be good practices. Those steps are grouped into four interrelated drivers of progress: (a) political commitment at the highest level to the adaptation of the operational plans of all public administration bodies for the implementation of the Goals, and to accountability for such adaptation under the supervision of the six Sectoral Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers with a view to following up on such implementation; (b) the launch of a process for enhancing, on the basis of the 2030 Agenda, the general public policy framework established in the national development plan for 2013-2019; (c) the instruction for the National Statistical Institute to disaggregate the data and clearly present the information regarding the most vulnerable sectors, including children and adolescents, people of African descent, indigenous peoples, persons with

disabilities, the elderly and women, in line with the principle of leaving no one behind; and (d) the active mainstreaming of the political participation, in a lead role and with joint responsibility, through consultation, of social movements, non-State actors, the productive sectors, academia and the Councils of the People's Government as the basis for ownership of the 2030 Agenda from the bottom up and from the top down.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has successfully maintained social investment policies designed to eradicate poverty and hunger and ensure comprehensive well-being, productive economic growth and the sustainability of cities in line with Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8 and 11, with the priority of addressing the most vulnerable families. Those policies have been sustained despite the unfavourable economic climate resulting from the decrease in the price of hydrocarbons and from national and international destabilizing factors.

At the national level, there is an all-out economic war in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, accompanied by attempts by the current opposition majority in the National Assembly to unconstitutionally reverse the progress of the revolutionary Government in upholding social, economic and cultural rights over the past 15 years, all of which has created a climate of instability.

At the international level, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has effectively addressed the continuing sharp fall in oil prices, which are as low as they have been in 45 years and have resulted in a decrease in national revenue, and the intensification of the El Niño climate phenomenon, which has thrown the national power system into crisis and led to a reduction in public-sector working hours.

National priorities for the initial phase of implementation

The initial national priorities for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals are structured around the themes of poverty eradication, sustainable cities and promotion of production at the micro-, local, general and national levels, as these themes are pillars of the Bolivarian economic agenda and the "zero poverty" plan to be achieved by 2019. At the same time, the priorities are based on the Bolivarian Government's constitutionally established development policy guidelines and the national sustainable development vision, which places particular emphasis on the social dimension. They also reflect the experience gained in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

The ecosocialist dimension of the national model expresses the authorities' political will to undertake the simultaneous promotion of the social, environmental and economic dimensions that underpin the 2030 Agenda. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela considers that ecosocialism is based on the conviction that capitalism is the primary cause of the destruction and degradation of ecosystems and the growth of social injustices in the world. Venezuela therefore works on a daily basis to build an alternative development model based on respect for Mother Earth.

Institutional framework, institutional roles and first steps

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has a high-level body called the Council of Vice-Presidents, headed by the Executive Vice-President of the Republic. It includes the six Sectoral Vice-Presidents, who meet up to three times a week to discuss cross-sectoral and cross-cutting aspects of the development policies being

implemented in Venezuela under the national development plan for 2013-2019 and their alignment with the 2030 Agenda.

The Ministry of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs oversees the coordination of the competent offices and agencies of the central administration for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This is reflected in the continual strengthening and empowerment of the inter-agency coordination group led by the Deputy Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Integration, which brings together all deputy ministers and directors of international relations of the central administration. The group meets every two months to consider the sectoral policy dimension and its programmatic implications; legal and development policy frameworks; and the progress made in evaluating the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level.

In addition, the National Human Rights Council, in which 14 bodies of the Venezuelan State participate, ensures that all human rights are mainstreamed in all the relevant development policies at the national level. The Council has taken the initiative to propose the distribution of responsibilities for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets among the offices and agencies of the central administration in accordance with their respective spheres of competence.

The National Human Rights Council led the national consultation held on 9 October 2015 with the 15 Presidential Councils of the People's Government, which included the participation of the President of the Republic. Moreover, a statistical committee was established in the Office of the Deputy Minister of Planning; it meets on a weekly basis with senior officials of the Office of the Vice-President and the Minister of the People's Power for Planning in order to ensure, together with the National Statistical Institute, that data are of the highest possible quality.

Overall policy framework and indicators for monitoring implementation

With regard to policies and related programmatic matters, the bodies of the central administration, including, in particular, the Ministry of the People's Power for Planning and the National Human Rights Council, have made substantial progress in analysing the Sustainable Development Goals in terms of consistency and alignment with the national development policy framework, primarily from an intra- and intersectoral perspective.

One clear example of this review is the analysis, by the National Statistical Institute, of more than 60 per cent of the 309 indicators initially proposed by the United Nations Statistical Commission to follow up on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Institute is working with the relevant bodies of the central administration to adapt and operationalize the relevant indicators. The preliminary results of its work have been encouraging and have included feasibility assessments of at least 184 indicators; identification of 22 indicators that do not appear to be feasible; and identification of 43 indicators for which statistical operations have already been defined. Furthermore, it has developed 122 alternative indicators intended to go beyond the narrowly economic vision now prevailing to incorporate multidimensional approaches to the measurement of poverty and inequality.

One of the most significant advances was the launching, on 9 May 2016, of the new web portal of the national geostatistical system, for use as a planning tool for the strategic development guidelines and for optimizing the Bolivarian economic agenda. The available data are related to the population and housing census and to natural physical factors, distributed by states or provinces, municipalities and parishes.

Successful first experiences in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and achieving their targets

In the context of the presidential instruction to mainstream and implement the Sustainable Development Goals in national public policy, one of the most significant experiences has been the successful establishment of socialist mission bases as the key tool for eradicating the remnants of extreme poverty. The socialist mission bases are logistical and operational centres that have been built by the national Government to provide health, nutrition, social and education services in the most vulnerable areas, with a positive impact on Goals 1, 2 and 3. The first 1,000 bases had been built by the end of 2015.

The establishment of the socialist mission bases is complemented by the sustained progress in various national programmes known as missions and great missions. As an example, the *Gran Misión Vivienda Venezuela* (Venezuelan housing great mission) provided one million homes by December 2015 and has provided 9,000 homes so far in 2016, as part of the overall objective of providing 2,500,000 homes by 2019. In addition, the *Hogares de la Patria* (homes for the motherland) mission has provided 50,000 socialist mission cards for food and medicine to the poorest families. The *Amor Mayor* mission has extended its coverage to an additional 36,000 pensioners, providing them with an income equivalent to the minimum wage, as well as over 7,000 social security pensions. Benefits have been provided to more than three million senior citizens over the past 15 years.

The second successful experience, which is expanding rapidly, relates to the efforts made to achieve Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8 and 11, which have made it possible to reassign budgetary resources and assign extrabudgetary resources to support the programmes known as missions and great missions, and also to investment in rural, urban and industrial productive infrastructure.

The coordinated actions and measures taken in this context have resulted in the establishment of many comprehensive working groups to consider the so-called productivity drivers that are represented in the National Council of the Productive Economy. These actions are bringing together State institutions, people's power organizations, social movements, business people and academics in a spirit of broad social participation. The strengthening of partnerships with other countries and with international funding agencies has been encouraged.

Investments of the order of 195 million dollars have been made to support the tourism driver in the restoration of infrastructure, services, operation and marketing for the hotel network. In the international arena, new financial and monetary partnerships have been established.

The two actions taken in the first four months of 2016 have been a successful experience. In addition to Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2 and 3, they also have an impact on Goal 11, which is to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and

sustainable. This initiative is intended to boost urban agriculture and to establish production and supply committees. A Ministry of Urban Agriculture was established, and a 100-day plan was launched on 29 February 2016. The outcomes are the registration of 1,000 available hectares and a general mapping of the associated productive chains, which will be used to coordinate the initiatives and implement sounder policies.

This effort has been coordinated with the production and supply committees as a fundamental strategy and partnership between the people and the Government for winning the economic war that has been planned at the international level and is waged at the national level by sectors hostile to the Government. The committees have two basic objectives: production and distribution of basic foodstuffs. Just one month after their creation, over 8,000 such committees have been established nationwide; in May alone, 25,523 tons of foodstuffs and household products were distributed to respond to and uphold the human right to food and welfare of over a million families, or approximately five million people.

Challenges and opportunities

The fight against poverty is threatened by neoliberal capitalist development policies that impact directly the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela through the intensification of the economic war marked by the radical fall in oil prices and the global economic imbalance. As a result, the Venezuelan Government has prioritized the development of a set of public policies designed to maintain the highest quality of life for the Venezuelan people.

The Venezuelan Government expects to reap the benefits of its tax reform, which was implemented through an enabling act in December 2015, in order to continue to make social investments and investments in infrastructure and public works. The Government has repeatedly expressed its commitment to maintain social investment, for which it has set aside 61.9 per cent of the national budget for 2016. However, in the light of the adverse economic situation and in order to guarantee continued investment, Venezuela wishes to strengthen international cooperation aimed at sustaining and developing policies and their follow-up processes, and at implementing alternative technologies.

With regard to Sustainable Development Goal 12, Venezuela took a first step towards the goal of ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns and increasing revenue collection when it adjusted the price of fuels in February 2016. That measure was reinforced through a comprehensive national public-private mass transportation policy.

The national power crisis, which is the result of the serious drought caused by the effects of the El Niño climatic phenomenon, has become an opportunity to forge international partnerships that could support us financially in progress towards Goal 7, the goal of ensuring access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela has had to supplement hydroelectric power (between 60 per cent and 80 per cent of the energy for residential and industrial consumption) with thermoelectric power, owing to the extreme drought caused by climate change and political sabotage of the operation of power stations and facilities. Meanwhile, considerable efforts are being made to save electricity and to guarantee supplies throughout the country (through a demand management plan and mass energy conservation campaigns) which require an enormous investment in

maintenance and an awareness of the rational use of renewable and non-renewable natural energy sources.

Next steps

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela is currently working to bring the time frame for the implementation of the social and economic development plan (2013-2019) into line with the 2030 Agenda. The re-scaling of the development plan is under review for implementation during the remaining part of the 2016 to 2030 period. Many of the Sustainable Development Goals are aligned with the relevant goals of the social and economic development plan. However, there is still work to be done on the cross-cutting dimension, policy programming and budgetary arrangements to ensure State-funded financial means of implementation and the support of agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, such as UNDP.

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela can share its good practices related to institutional coordination and the overall policy framework applied to its planning processes, follow-up and coordination, in other words, intra- and inter-institutional coherence for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for the purpose of contributing to the advancement of other nations in this global challenge.